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75¢

CUC: Water loss at 70 percent



FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. board and management discussed at length the shortage of water supply on Saipan at a public meeting yesterday. Out of 10 million gallons of water produced every day, CUC has an estimated water loss of 70 percent.

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
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REPORTER

» **Water production down to 84 pct**
» **26 out of 138 wells not in service**

A myriad of problems continue to plague water production and distribution of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. as it continues to address water supply issues in Saipan where round-the-clock water services are still not available to all villages.

During a board meeting yesterday, CUC acting executive director Gary Camacho reported that water production is reduced to 84 percent or about 10 million gallons per day.

"We have a total of 138 wells, 26 are not in service," Camacho said.

Aside from these wells, CUC has two Maui shaft type wells, one spring, 18 booster pump stations, 17 tanks, and 458 miles of water lines as part of their water production and distribution facilities to 15 tank ser-

See WATER on Page 4

Torres admin to release budget submission before May 1

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

The administration of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres aims to submit its fiscal year 2017 budget to the Legislature before May 1, a month after the expected deadline of April 1, or no later than six months



Torres

before the beginning of the fiscal year, per Commonwealth law.

Asked to explain the new deadline, the governor's spokesperson Ivan Blanco pointed to the part in the law where "in the event of change

in administration, the new governor shall make his or her first submission no later than five months before the beginning of the fiscal year." Torres, along with Lt. Gov. Victor Hocog, took the helms of government after the untimely passing of the late governor Eloy S. Inos last December.

See TORRES on Page 4

Submerged lands language OK'd

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and his administration have okayed language

of the transfer for the submerged lands of the Commonwealth's northernmost islands from the federal government to the CNMI after reviewing the terms over the last month, and

said they eye a public comment period on the deal "soon."

The Torres administration held a conference call with Department of Interior and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration officials

See LANDS on Page 4

INSIDE



LOCAL

April has been proclaimed as Environmental Awareness Month, but the important message to take care and protect the environment is something that has to be emphasized all throughout the year.

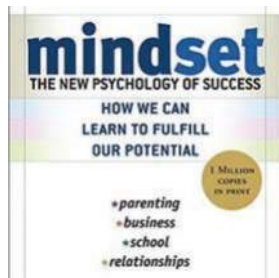
» **PAGE 10**



LOCAL

The Obama administration wants the CNMI, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands all included in the Earned Income Tax Credit program.

» **PAGE 20**



LOCAL

Mount Carmel School teachers recently resumed their professional development book club with Carol Dweck's "Mindset."

» **PAGE 25**



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Local

NMC wants \$8.63M budget for FY17

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

The Northern Marianas College has forwarded their fiscal year 2017 budget request to the Legislature and the Governor's Office, asking for an appropriation of \$8,636,935 primarily for personnel costs.

The college says the amount requested represents a "bare-bones budget" needed to "maintain its accreditation and keep its doors open."

The budget report arrived on the desks of lawmakers this week and among others, request funding for 136 total full-time equivalent positions at \$6.62 million.

It also seeks \$400,000 in salary adjustments or an increase, explaining this as essential to sustain their workforce in an increasingly competitive market.

In its report, the college list 107 current FTEs amounting to \$4.92 million; vacant FTEs with funding of \$602,427; 12 FTEs to be reinstated at \$694,375; and a total number of positions partially or fully funded by federal grants in the prior year to be fully funded by appropriations in FY 2017 at seven FTES, with requested funding of \$347,911.

The college calculates total wages and salaries at \$5.42 million; employer life insurance at \$7,862, defined employer contribution benefits at \$54,653, defined contribution employer contribution at \$138,130; FICA benefits at \$336,349; employer health share insurance premium at \$489,742; Medicare contribution at \$78,662, and subsistence benefits at \$25,200, for a total salary and benefits of \$6.62 million.

The college says there are nine recently vacated positions in this budget proposal that are "critical instructor and

specialty" positions, for which the college is in the process of filling, interviewed for some, and is actively recruiting.

In all cases, the college said they expect to fill all positions before the fall 2016 semester.

The college says they have an additional 10 vacancies that are not actively being filled due to budget constraints, but add they have plans to recruit for these in the immediate future.

The 12 FTE positions requested for reinstatement from prior years is "in anticipation of projected enrollment growth," the college said, and will be vital to provide full-time instructors and student support services to meet this growth in demand.

"These positions were previously eliminated in prior fiscal years due to budget constraints, and the college is now seeking funding to reinstate them."

These positions are an assistant dean of academic programs, a budget officer, a database administrator, a financial aid counselor, an instructor for business, instructor for science, instructor for health and athletics, instructor for fine arts, an institutional researcher, a program coordinator for marketing, a program coordinator for college readiness, and a program coordinator for prior learning assessment.

Adjunct and overload costs

NMC is again seeking funding for adjunct and overload instructional costs.

The college says the yearly shortfall in government appropriations has led the college "to transfer the burden and expense of hiring part time faculty the students."

The college said they hire an estimated 35 short-term ad-

See NMC on Page 3

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NMC

From Page 2

junct instructors per year.

Student demand of courses is usually addressed by using adjuncts or overloads when a need arises because a lack of instructors, the college said.

When they can't find qualified instructors, the college said they put the burden back on the existing faculty to cover the loads and courses needed.

The college says they need at least 17 faculty to meet the needs of the students, when it comes to the combines credits taught with overload or adjunct costs.

"Historically, the institution has funded its cost for adjunct and overloads instruction from revenues derived from tuition and fees. However, the college uses its annual appropriations from the Commonwealth exclusively for personnel related costs. For consistency purposes, the college now would like to include the anticipated personnel costs of \$800,000 for FY 2017 for adjunct and overload instruction," the college said in its report.

400K salary adjustments

The college said request for salary adjustments are "essential for a sustainable workforce."

The college explains that one of the reasons for a "show

cause" accreditation status in 2013 was tied to their administrative capacity, which they said was difficult to sustain due to low salaries and lack of increases given to administrators and employees.

The college said they have since been successful in filling administrative positions and now needs to focus on retaining its personnel.

After evaluating and comparing the salaries of its staff, faculty, and administration with peer institutions, the college said that "not surprisingly" they found that salaries for almost all categories of employees at NMC fell well below those of its peers.

As a result of this study, the college said they aim to ensure salaries of all employees are competitive and benchmarked to at least 85 percent of the average of peer institutions.

"To realize this goal, the college is requesting funding in the amount to \$400,00 to be earmarked for staff and faculty salary adjustments."

Others

The college's Board of Regents requests \$124,174 for FY 17 based on anticipated costs to fund its operational activities.

The college also seeks \$100,000 for the establishment of a faculty ranking system.

For utilities and other non-personnel related costs, the college requests \$500,000.

Source: Establishments sold alcohol to minors

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

A government source named yesterday the 10 establishments whose workers landed in jail for selling alcoholic beverages to minors, or persons under the age of 21.

The 10 individuals were caught during a two-day operation conducted by the Department of Public Safety on March 28 and March 29.

On March 28, JL Market in Susupe, New ABCD Market in Koblerville, KB Market in Koblerville, Tian Market in CK-2, Green Consume Market in As Lito and Toha Market in Chalan Piao were caught selling alcohol to minors as a result of the enforcement operation, the source said.

On March 29, 2016, Ming Yang Supermarket in San Vicente, Joeten Kagman Market, Sunleader Mart in Garapan, K.S. Market in Garapan, and Hafa Adai Shopping Center in Garapan sold alcohol to minors as a result of the enforcement operation, the source also said.

The Department of Commerce on Wednesday first revealed these violations, absent the names of the establishments.

Each of the establishments will be facing \$1,000 in fines, Commerce said.

In the statement on Wednesday, Commerce Secretary Mark Rabauliman said that these violations pose a major concern in the community and most importantly, the safety

and well-being of the youth.

He called "most disturbing" the fact that the individuals who were arrested actually took the training provided by Commerce Alcohol Beverage and Tobacco Control Division on responsible alcohol and tobacco sales and services.

He said this training was tailored to certify the storeowners including their employees in ensuring that the mandatory I.D. card requirement is strictly enforced and to ensure that sales to minors do not occur.

"However, it appears that there exists a wanton disregard of law with respect to those individuals involved in the illegal sales, who now face the consequences," he said.

Rabauliman also empha-

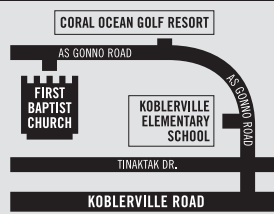
sized he would be exercising his authority to revoke the licenses from the establishments involved in the illegal sales on top of instituting a \$1,000 fine.

He said in the event a decision is made to automatically revoke a license, the establishment may appeal this decision through a request for an administrative hearing that is accorded under the Administrative Procedures Act.

"I am not making this decision to hurt these businesses. However, as the secretary of Commerce, part of my duty and the administration's objective is to ensure that are youth are safeguarded from harm that may be caused from unscrupulous business practices," he said on Wednesday.

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Newly found underground Japanese tunnel 'very close' to fuel tank

The Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality is looking into the Japanese underground tunnel found at the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s power plant on Rota.

According to BECQ Administrator Frank Rabauliman, they are assessing the tunnel, noting that it is "very close" to CUC's fuel tank.

"Obviously it's very close to an AST, above storage tank for

CUC," Rabauliman said.

However, they are not yet sure whether or not the AST is directly above a portion of the tunnel which was earlier described by CUC acting manager Gary Camacho as an "elaborate" tunnel that goes in different directions, looking like "something from the war era" and has cemented walls and floors.

CUC earlier said that their transformer and oil storage facility is directly above a portion of tunnel.

"We're surveying it whether it runs under the AST. We're hoping that it doesn't," Rabauliman said.

He added that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region IX office was already informed of the tunnel.

"They are aware of that tunnel," Rabauliman said.

"We're making sure that, and we're working with EPA on this, to make sure that the integrity of that tank is not compromised with the newly discovered tunnel," he added.

According to CUC, the underground Japanese tunnel was accidentally discovered on Rota by their contractor earlier this year.

there are no regular happenings at Paseo.

Right now, they already have two more events set for next month.

"We're looking at two huge events in May and one of them is the Mother's Day concert," Arriola said.

Arriola recognized the PDM Promoters' and MVA's board of directors because of their vision which eventually was made reality through them working together.

For individuals or groups interested in performing at Paseo, they may contact Arriola at 287-6824 or at ed_arriola@tanholdings.com. **(Frau-leine Villanueva-Dizon)**

better for everyone."

Torres earlier told *Saipan Tribune* that CNMI mayor's offices would see an increase in their budgets for next fiscal year, suggesting an overall growth in revenue projections.

The Saipan Mayor's Office will see a \$209,000 increase from a budget last year of \$1.8 million, the Northern Island Mayor's Office will see a proposed increase to \$505,000 budget from a \$340,000 budget, the Rota Mayor's Office will see an increase to \$6.7 million from \$6.4 million, and from a current budget of \$6.6 million, the Tinian Mayor's Office will see a proposed budget of \$6.8 million, according to Torres.

Saipan Tribune revealed last month that the Torres administration is optimistic and anticipate "double-digit forecasted revenue increases."

and Wildlife Service and NOAA, continue management responsibilities of the submerged lands once conveyed, until the CNMI government notifies in writing that they intend to assume all or a portion of management responsibilities.

Struck out in the new terms is the CNMI's responsibility in managing the submerged lands, which Torres in January said would "bind" the local government to expend large amounts of capital and resources on management plans that federal authorities could ultimately reject.

The contractor was working on a certain area near the power plant when that area caved in.

Water and oil were found

NMI govt assisting Palau as drought worsens

The CNMI government has lent technical assistance to Palau as it suffers from a severe drought, Office of the Governor spokesman Ivan Blanco said.

Blanco said that March 30, 2016, Palau's Environmental Quality Protection Board requested the CNMI Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality for technical assistance in testing new water sources for public use.

These, he said, include decontaminating or disinfecting possible water sources and storing in water bladders/tanks for transportation to distribution areas.

inside the tunnel although it is not yet clear where they came from and how long the sludge has been there. **(Frau-leine Villanueva-Dizon)**

"Mr. Derek Chambers, CNMI Public Health Officer, was dispatched to Palau on April 4 and is currently on the ground providing much needed technical assistance for the above stated activities. This is part of our continuing partnerships with our sister islands when in times of need," Blanco told *Saipan Tribune*.

Palau declared a state of emergency last month after the El Nino-induced droughts in the region worsened.

The Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia have also declared states of emergency. **(Dennis B. Chan)**

Saturday night shows at Paseo to start tomorrow

Music-filled weekend nights in April at the Paseo De Marianas in Garapan will kick off a tomorrow.

A special slate of music shows at the Paseo will be held every Saturday from tomorrow until April 30 by the Marianas Visitors Authority and PDM Promoters.

According to MVA Destination Enhancement Committee vice chair Ed Arriola, the events are geared toward promoting culture, particularly the music and sounds, to the tourists walking by in that area in the evenings as well as to residents.

"We're trying to just capture, especially because it's PDM, the tourists that walk through there. We would love for as many people in the community to come out," Arriola said.

"That's what PDM was made for," he added.

The month-long event is dubbed "More Music under the Stars" and will feature local performances particularly acoustic live jazz, island, and contemporary music.

The shows will be from 5pm to 9pm at the center of Paseo.

This weekend will feature

Roman Tudela, the Awoodori dancers, Revive, Uncle Ben's Studio, and the newly formed island music band Uprooted.

Arriola said their previous regular events at Paseo such as the Christmas in the Marianas and the International Festival of Cultures, as well as recent ones such as the Chinese and Korean Lunar New Year festival made it clear that events can be successfully held at Paseo.

"We know for sure that Paseo can definitely draw a crowd," Arriola said.

He added that they would like to work on the other months of the year where

the resources together...The administration can always, like in the past when I was in the House when the budget is going to be late, the governor will advise that it will be one week, two weeks late," he added.

Guerrero said Torres indicated they are looking at giving all governmental agencies across the board "equated allocations."

Guerrero said, for example, Torres would not take away money from agency to subsidize another.

"Everybody is going to be proportionate to what they spend in this" fiscal year," Guerrero told *Saipan Tribune*. "You spend FY '16 this much, that's about what you will be getting, whatever additional assistance you might really need might be forthcoming" but "we haven't seen it so it's

difficult to quantify how the budget was" formulated, he added.

Guerrero said another concern was with the Department of Public Safety given the new gun laws to be set in place after a federal court ruling struck down the ban on handguns in the CNMI.

"DPS will need to get adequate equipment because the gun law...is looking moving forward to being signed into law. The governor wanted to make sure frontline officers are fully protected. He's looking at giving additional money to DPS," Guerrero said.

"According to him, it looks brighter," Guerrero said, when asked about an increase in revenue projections. "...I don't know how bright it is, but hopefully in the coming years, we are going to see a better economic growth. It will be

TORRES

From Page 1

At the same time, Torres met with the leadership of the Legislature yesterday morning to discuss the budget.

Sen. Justo Quitugua (Ind-Saipan) and Rep. Joseph Leepan Guerrero (R-Saipan) separately confirmed Torres' aim to submit a budget before May 1.

Quitugua said "as soon as they are done identifying all the resources and putting all the department" submissions, "they will be sending [the budget] to us," but there is "nothing concrete yet."

Asked whether the pushback in the deadline was because of the new administration, Quitugua said, "No. That should not be a reason."

"I think they are just putting

LANDS

From Page 1

last Friday to signal approval of the terms, particularly a draft memorandum of agreement and patent for transfer.

The parties aim to have signed on to the terms to transfer the submerged lands by December of this year, *Saipan Tribune* learned.

"This is a positive development on this ongoing discussion with our federal government counterparts," said Torres in a statement to *Saipan Tribune*. "Since hearing about the delay in negotiations over

the transference of the submerged lands surrounding certain northern islands (Farallon de Pajaros, Maug, and Asuncion) I was keen on finding a resolution that is good for the CNMI and for the Federal government.

"While in D.C. [during a February trip] we met with NOAA and DOI officials to discuss our issues. They have been incredible partners in hearing our concerns and making adjustments to the plans. We are happy with the new arrangement and look forward to the next steps in finalizing this process," Torres said.

The proposed MOA between the local and federal government covers a cooperative framework for coordination of the management of the submerged lands with conservation and protection of the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument within these submerged lands.

The agreement defines the functional relationships, processes, and general terms and conditions that the governments will coordinate this management.

The agreement will have the federal government, specifically the U.S. Fish

water division is the shortage of functioning meters.

According to CUC board chair Adelina Roberto, about 50 percent of the water customers on island are not properly metered.

It is estimated that less than 100 customers are not metered at all and are paying at a "flat rate"—including some commercial accounts.

Accounts and financial manager Betty Terlaje reported that they have earlier identified a need of 4,000 meters specifically for active accounts.

She added that as about 1,000 meters were already on board, there is a need for 3,000 meters more.

While the lack of functioning meters hinder CUC to actually charge its customers accurately, it also hinders CUC from monitoring actual consumptions. This is also seen as a deterrent for customers to conserve their usage as some can get away with consuming higher than what they pay for.

One discussion made at the board meeting was to re-prioritize grant money to address current pressing issues with the water division.

These grant money, most of which come from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, which allocates about \$6 million per year, are already set for specific priority projects.

"We had a priority listing, but priorities have changed," vice chair Eric San Nicolas said.

Camacho reported to the board that they have consulted the matter with EPA, which said that changes to the priority listing can be made with the approval of the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality.

The board will reconvene today for further discussion.

WATER

From Page 1

vice areas.

While these seem to produce even more than Saipan's water demand of 6.5 million gallons per day, water losses or unaccounted for water is currently estimated to be as high as 70 percent, leading to the inability of CUC to supply the needs of island.

"Current water production will be sufficient to meet the calculated demand when water losses are reduced to 37.5 percent," Camacho said in his report.

CUC's unaccounted for water comes from leaks, waste, and theft.

According to their water division, they address about 15 leaks per week. About 10 percent of the total pipes of CUC has been resolved due to leaks.

CUC said it has two leak detection units that are addressing the leaks both at the main and service lines. They are in the process of adding more personnel to focus on leaks.

To address supply issues at the source, CUC identified that they need to drill seven wells this year to replace failed wells, which would cost \$1,260,000.

"Failure is due to collapsed casing, dropped pumps or pipes in the well, or damaged screens," Camacho said.

Next year, CUC would need to replace wells on private property or five wells that will amount to \$900,000. The following years would see the need to replace three failing wells at \$540,000.

"CUC should probably be prepared to replace two to four wells per year," Camacho added.

Lack of functioning meters

Another pressing issue for the

BOP grants parole to 4 burglars, robber

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

The Board of Parole has granted the request for parole to five convicted burglars and denied the parole application to four others.

Acting chief parole officer Jason Lizama told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that granted parole effective last March 8 were Nelson A. Ramon, Gorgonny Vincent V. Camacho, Congrad B. Iba, Jose T. Blas, and Daimeionne Kaleo Greer.

Lizama said denied parole were Mark S. Benavente, Theodore O. Pehnos, Jose B. Manglona Jr., and John I. Carreon.

According to BOP records, Ramon will be on parole for six months. His full completion of parole will be on Aug. 23, 2016. He was slapped with two years imprisonment

» Board denies 4 others' parole application

for burglary.

Camacho will be on parole for six months and two days. His full completion of parole will be on Sept. 16, 2016. He was convicted of burglary and was sentenced to two years.

Iba will be on parole for two years and one month. He will complete his parole on April 15, 2018. He was sentenced for three years for burglary.

Blas will be on parole for three months and 24 days. He will complete his parole on June 9, 2016. He was convicted for burglary and sentenced to one year and three months.

Greer will complete his parole until Aug. 23, 2017. He was sentenced to two years and six months for robbery.

For those denied parole, Benavente was sentenced to two years for burglary. Pehnos was sentenced to three years for assault with a dangerous weapon.

Manglona Jr. was sentenced to two years and six months for theft and violation of probation.

Carreon was sentenced to nine years imprisonment for sexual abuse of a minor.

Unless the court orders no parole, convicted criminals are legible to apply for parole after serving 1/3 of their prison term.

Ramon B. Camacho chairs BOP. The other members are Wally Villagomez, Antonio Borja, Ignacio Mendiola, and Alexander Apatang.

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Santos is Pacific Territories' Geographic Bee rep

By JON PEREZ

jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Marianas Baptist Academy's Victoria Nicole Santos is once again pounding the books to prepare for a bigger challenge ahead, the National Geographic Bee finals set from May 22 to 26 in Washington, D.C. The 12-year-old will be representing the Pacific Territories after besting nine others.

This will also be the first time since 2008 that a CNMI bet made it to the National Geographic Bee finals. Vinni Orsini was the first from the

CNMI that represented the Pacific Territories.

National Geographic sent the final test that was held last April 1. The organizers would provide the airfare, hotel accommodations, and meals for the winning Pacific Territories representative,

"I've been practicing with my coach [Manuel Castro] after school and also at home. After I finish all my school work, I begin studying for the Geographic Bee," said Santos, who transferred from Eucon International School—not Agape Chris-



Santos

tian School as earlier reporter—to MBA this year.

Santos first won in a school wide competition at MBA to earn the right of representing MBA regional competition where she finished top to reach the nationals.

"I practice everyday, except for holidays and special occasions. Usually, I always relax for a bit before I start studying geography," added Santos, the eldest child of three kids by Ferdinand and Imelda Santos.

Castro, who teaches history and English at MBA, said this would be the first

time that MBA is competing in the finals after finishing twice in the Top 5 of the Pacific Territories finals.

"Thank you Lord we finally made it. Although, it would be a lot harder since the competition will cover the whole world and not only the U.S. The languages, culture, and tribes of people, and famous landmarks and places," added Castro.

Jabez Victoria (Grace Christian Academy-Saipan), Xue Zhen Qiu (Hopwood Junior High School), Guam's Katherine Cruz (Bishop Baumgartner Memorial Catholic School), Napu Blas (Captain Henry B. Price Elementary School), and Brian Chan (Harvest Christian Academy), and American

Samoa's Sitivi Wong Mageo (Manumalo Baptist Academy), Tovi'o Aufata (Olo-moana Elementary School), Victor Chen (Pacific Horizons School), and Aiden Siuloa (U.P. Coleman Elementary School) are the other Pacific Territories finalists.

Santos, whose favorite subject is mathematics, said she really likes joining various academic competitions. She is also part of MBA's MathCourt and Academic Bowl teams.

Last March 7, Santos competed with Team CNMI in the MathCourt national finals in San Francisco. "I finished in the Top 30 in the individual event and 15th in the team. Most of the questions are algebra and geometry."

Labor insists right to intervene in plane crash survivors' lawsuit

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_dela Torre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Department of Labor has insisted that it is authorized to intervene into the lawsuit filed by two plane crash survivors against the owner of Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino.

Labor, though counsel assistant attorney general Michael Witry, said that it does not need an independent jurisdictional basis to request the U.S. District Court for the NMI to modify its order.

Plane crash survivors Tomoyuki Nagata and Dr. Jun Takimoto will not be prejudiced by Labor's participation, said Witry in Labor's reply yesterday to plaintiffs' (survivors) opposition to its motion to intervene.

The government lawyer asserted that Labor is interested in this lawsuit because it has no way to enforce its orders so long as the federal court's order stands.

The court order that Witry is referring to is U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona's March 10, 2016, order to Hong Kong Entertainment (Overseas) Investment Ltd., owner of Tinian Dynasty, to refrain from selling or transferring any of its property or assets, except in the normal course of business.

Manglona issued the order following the request by plaintiffs Nagata and Takimoto.

Witry said Labor should be allowed to intervene in this lawsuit for the limited purpose of modifying Manglona's order regarding the transfer of HKE's assets.

Takimoto and Mr. Nagata made such request to refrain from selling or transferring for order as they moved the court to enforce terms of their settlement agreement and the court's order.

The survivors claimed that

HKE owes them at least \$1.3 million for breaching their settlement agreements.

In Labor's motion to intervene, Labor Secretary Edith DeLeon Guerrero said she is worried that Manglona's order could impede Labor's ability to collect the remaining \$416,241.37 in judgment for liquidated damages against Tinian Dynasty for non-payment of wages to its employees.

DeLeon Guerrero has requested the court to allow Labor to intervene in the lawsuit for the limited purpose of ensuring that it can enforce Labor's interest, and that of the unpaid Tinian Dynasty employees.

The survivors opposed Labor's request.

Attorney Richard W. Pierce, counsel for the survivors, said CNMI law does not provide Labor with the authority to file in a federal court a collection claim arising from an agreement between a private party and the Labor secretary, or for that matter arising from an order of an administrative law judge in a CNMI proceeding.

Pierce said the Labor secretary would turn this civil action for personal injury into a bankruptcy proceeding.

In Labor's reply yesterday, Witry said Labor is not seeking to litigate any claim on its merits.

Witry said Labor merely wants to modify the court's order to allot it to pursue its claims in Commonwealth court.

Witry said once the order has been modified, Labor does not intend further litigation in federal court.

Takimoto and Nagata were among the seven passengers of a Piper Cherokee aircraft that crashed on a farm in Upper Dandan en route to Tinian on Aug. 11, 2006. HKE settled the lawsuits filed by the survivors, including one filed by Takimoto and his family, and Nagata.

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Boat owner sues as 'loose' vessel struck his boat during Soudelor

BSI SUPPORTS FESTPAC

The staging of the world-class Festival of Pacific Arts or FESTPAC from May 22 to June 4 this year is widely anticipated by the region. Best Sunshine International, Ltd. is supporting this event that will be participated in by 27 island nations across the Pacific in what is dubbed as the Olympics of the Pacific Arts. In this photo, Corporate Social Responsibility directors Rita Chong and Geri Dela Cruz presented FESTPAC its support through co-program coordinator and CNMI Arts Council executive director Angel S. Hocog, who was also joined by Gloria Tebuteb, Carolinian Dance Group dancer; Feofaaki McMahon, FESTPAC treasurer; Frances Sablan, FESTPAC co-program coordinator; Parker Yobei, FESTPAC co-chairman for logistics committee; Jo-Ann Ythamar, Carolinian Dance Group dancer; and Margaret Muna, FESTPAC treasurer.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A boat owner is suing two companies after a boat got loose and struck his moored vessel at the Port of Saipan during the height of Typhoon Soudelor last Aug. 2.

Frederick L. Nosek Jr., also known as Captain Fred, is suing Saipan Sea Ventures Inc. and Saipan USA Fisheries Inc. for negligence.

Nosek, through counsel Robert T. Torres, asked the Superior Court to hold Saipan Sea Ventures and Saipan USA Fisheries liable jointly liable to pay him \$81,000 in compensatory damages, plus pre-judgment and post-judgment interests, attorney's fees and court costs.

Saipan Tribune tried yesterday to get the side from the defendants but no one was available to comment from Saipan Sea Ventures. Saipan USA Fisheries is not listed in the phone directory.

According to Torres in the complaint, on April 19, 1996, Saipan Sea Ventures entered into a lease agreement with the Commonwealth Ports Authority for space at the Port of Saipan generally known as Delta Dock.

Torres said sometime before 2010, Saipan Sea Ventures entered into an agreement with Saipan USA Fisheries.

Under the agreement, Saipan USA Fisheries leased part of Saipan Sea Ventures' interest in the leased premises to Saipan USA Fisheries for the purposes of docking the vessel *Miss Saipan* at the leased premises.

Saipan USA Fisheries owns the *Miss Saipan* boat. Nosek owns the *Dolphin Quest* vessel.

Torres said *Miss Saipan* remained docked at the leased premises for years prior to Aug. 2, 2015, when she came loose from it due to Typhoon Soudelor.

Torres said the effect of Soudelor was, among other things, caused the *Miss Saipan* to detach from its mooring and carried her out into the waters of the Port of Saipan and then drove her, bow first, into Delta Dock.

He said the current position of the *Miss Saipan* blocks entrance and egress of the *Dolphin Quest* boat from its docking location, which Nosek rents from CPA.

Torres said while loose due to Soudelor's effects, *Miss Saipan* struck the moored *Dolphin Quest* before running aground on the dock.

The lawyer said prior to her coming loose as a result of Soudelor, the *Miss Saipan* had only standard dock rigging in place and had no storm rigging/offshore rigging in place.

Torres said the *Miss Saipan*

was not manned during the time immediately prior to her coming loose of her riggings as a result of the typhoon.

Torres said neither Saipan Sea Ventures nor Saipan USA Fisheries had any staff or other personnel present at Delta Dock during the time immediately prior to the *Miss Saipan* coming loose of her riggings as a result of the typhoon.

Torres said prior to Aug. 2, 2015, both defendants knew that the *Miss Saipan* was unpowered, that it could not control itself, and that the *Miss Saipan* posed a danger to its surroundings and neighbors, particularly during times of inclement weather.

Torres said Nosek was present for the impact of Soudelor at the Port of Saipan, having rigged the *Dolphin Quest* with storm rigging, and was on watch at the dock when the *Miss Saipan* came loose and struck the *Dolphin Quest*.

That night, Torres said, Nosek witnessed the *Miss Saipan* strike the *Dolphin Quest* after the latter came loose from the dock.

Nosek also saw that the *Miss Saipan* only had standard rigging and no storm rigging/offshore rigging in place prior to coming loose. He also saw that there were no personnel on board the *Miss Saipan* prior to her coming loose and saw Saipan Sea Ventures staff leave the area hours prior to the *Miss Saipan* coming loose.

Following the impact of the *Miss Saipan* on the *Dolphin Quest*, Torres said Nosek and other personnel present were able to secure the *Dolphin Quest* to the dock.

Prior to the impact, Nosek utilized the *Dolphin Quest* in his tourism business.

Following the impact, Torres said, the *Dolphin Quest* has been unsafe for service and has been termed out of service pending repairs by the U.S. Coast Guard.

The *Dolphin Quest* suffered severe damage both above and below the waterline due to the impact of the *Miss Saipan*.

Torres said an initial estimate of the cost of necessary repairs to return the *Dolphin Quest* to in service condition was \$35,000.

An updated estimate of the total necessary repairs to the *Dolphin Quest* was \$57,000.

He said the *Dolphin Quest* is currently being repaired with an anticipated completion date of end of April 2016.

Torres said the defendants breached their duty by not taking action to appropriately secure the *Miss Saipan* to the leased premises in preparation for the impact of Soudelor, or to otherwise see that *Miss Saipan* was appropriately secured or kept safe.

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS**MVA essay contest deadline on April 11, 2016**

In celebration of its 40th anniversary, the Marianas Visitors Authority announces a student essay contest open to all CNMI public and private school students Grades 3-12. The deadline to submit to MVA offices on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota offices is 5pm on Monday, April 11.

The theme of the contest is, "How Can I Support the Tourism Industry?" All entries must be typed and include: student name, teacher name, school, and grade level. In addition, maximum essay lengths are 300 words for Grades 3-6, 500 words for grades 7-9, and 600 words for grades 10-12.

By entering, contestants and their guardians agree to allow MVA to use their name, image, and essay for promotional purposes. For more information, contact Catherine Perry at cperry@integrity-communications.net or 288-8433. (PR)

Call for entries extended for Humanities Film Festival

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council has extended the call for entries deadline for its Humanities Film Festival to May 31.

The festival's theme is "Soudelor and the Winds of Change in the CNMI."

Filmmakers are invited to submit entries that explore and address the ethical, philosophical and existential questions raised in the aftermath of Typhoon Soudelor.

The festival is open to individuals who are 18 years old and older and current residents of the CNMI. High school students (9th-12th grades) are also eligible to submit films. Films may be submitted under three categories—Narrative, Documentary, and Student. Entries in each of these categories may be a feature film (more than 30 minutes) or a film short (no more than 15 minutes).

Entry forms and festival guidelines and fact sheet may be downloaded from the council website www.northernmarianashumanities.org or picked up at the council's office in Springs Plaza, Gualo Rai.

Contact council staff at 235-4785 for more information about this upcoming program. (PR)

NMC Open House today, April 8

To increase awareness about Northern Marianas College and various programs offered, the college is inviting members of the community to NMC's Open House today, April 8, 2016, from 8am to 2:30pm at the As Terlaje campus.

The Open House will feature informational brochures from the following college depart-

ments, the Office of Financial Aid, International Student Services, Business Department, School of Education, Social Science and Fine Arts, Sciences, Math and Athletics, Liberal Arts, Criminal Justice, Natural Resource Management, and Language and Humanities.

In addition to the exhibits, there will be games held by the Counseling Office and the College Access Challenge Grant.

For additional information about the Open House, visit marianas.edu. (PR)

Kagman Health Fair tomorrow

The Kagman Community Health Center will be hosting a Health Fair tomorrow, April 9, at the Kagman CHC grounds in Kagman II. The event, set from 9am to 12pm, is in connection with the third year anniversary of Kagman CHC.

Blood pressure screening, blood sugar testing, body mass index measurement, breast exam, family planning information, fluoride varnish application, HIV/STD screening, immunization, Pap Smear, and purified protein derivative test—to know if you suffer from tuberculosis—are the services they would offer.

For more information or any questions, email Frances Santos at frances.santos@kagmanchc.org or call her at 256-5240. (PR)



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FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON

As close as they can to the beach, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Gov. Victor Hocog proclaimed April as Environmental Awareness Month and April 22 as CNMI Earth Day together with BECQ administrator Frank Rabauliman at the Carolinian Utt last Tuesday.

'Our environment should be celebrated, protected every day'

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
frauline_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

April has been proclaimed as Environmental Awareness Month, but the important message to take care and protect the environment is something that has to be emphasized all throughout the year.

Led by the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality, partners in protecting the environment such as the Department of Lands and Natural Resources, Department of Public Works, Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance, and other agencies, gathered at the proclamation signing at the Carolinian Utt in Garapan last Tuesday.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Gov. Victor Hocog signed the document that also proclaimed April 22 as CNMI Earth Day.

This year's theme is "Our Natural Treasures" which according to the proclamation, "reinforces our responsibility to maintain and protect our shared environment. It calls each of us to do our part to enhance our beautiful islands, and to understand that our actions impact not only ourselves, but the land we live on, the air we breathe, and the oceans surrounding us; all who provide us sustenance and the enjoyment of their beauty."

"This is a more elaborate ceremony creating awareness for protecting the environment but I would like to think that we should be celebrating the environment each and every day," BECQ Administrator Frank Rabauliman said.

"That is very important; we protect our resources so that the generations to come will enjoy them much like we're

enjoying it now," he added.

Torres echoed the message emphasizing the environment's role and our need for it in the CNMI.

"This is what we have to offer," Torres said, "It is important that all of us, our community, our business partner, residents, our tourists, come to appreciate this but at the same time protect our island, protect what we have."

"We live here. People come here and spend thousands of dollars to come here and enjoy what we have on a daily basis. It is important for us to dedicate this month as we do in everyday lives," he added.

To ensure the protection of our natural resources, Torres put emphasis on the absolute compliance of laws and policies—even by big investors.

"I am serious in this administration...we're here to make sure that we all comply with the rules and regulations across the board," Torres said.

"Regardless of who they are, I want everyone to know, if you need to give them citation and they are not willing to fix it, give it to them. If they come to my office and complain and I see that there is ample time for them to fix it but they have not, then there is no way I will ask any of you because we all have work to do," he added.

Torres said he does not support bypassing regulations to favor a party.

"I will not in any way or form ask anyone to violate or turn your face or bypass regulations to please anyone or any company no matter how big or small or whether it's local or international. All I ask is to make sure that we communicate with our investors or business partners," Torres said.

Community invited to NMC's 35th Charter Day this weekend

To celebrate 35 years of enriching lives through higher education, the Northern Marianas College is inviting the community to its biggest celebration of the year, Charter Day, on April 8 and 9, 2016.

The theme for this year's Charter Day is: "Best Charter Day Ever."

"We are inviting everyone to join us in As Terlaje for our Charter Day celebration," said Leo Pangelinan, dean of Student Services. "We'll be showcasing various programs, hosting fun competitions, and of course, featuring great entertainment. We also thank the sponsors for making this event possible."


The Charter Day celebration is sponsored by the following: Best Sunshine International, Bank of Guam, IT&E, Saipan Ice & Water Co., Kanoa Resort, Fiesta Resort & Spa,

Pacific Islands Club (PIC), Power 99, Coca-Cola Beverage Company, Foremost, NMC Cooperative Research Extension & Education Services, Saipan Ice Inc., NMC College Access Challenge Grant, Pacific Trading Co., Pacifica Insurance, KKMP Radio, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, Herman's Bakery, and the NMC Children's Healthy Living program.

NMC's 35th Anniversary Charter Day celebration will be held for two days: April 8, from 3:30pm to 9pm and April 9, from 9am to 4pm at the NMC South Field.

The Northern Marianas College will be streaming the Charter Day festivities in real time. Watch the live stream at: <http://www.marianas.edu/nmclivetv/>.

For additional information about the Open House or Charter Day, visit marianas.edu. (PR)



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Renewable energy—‘Power to the People’

By PHIL YORIO
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

I truly believe that there are a few areas in our lives that need to be governed as much as possible by our own decisions and energy is one of them. Here on Saipan I do not expect to see our cost for energy going down any time soon, and believe we have hit an all-time low that we will probably never see again as now we see rates starting to rise. When we look at our own energy footprint the first step we need to take is energy



efficiency. Always remember the most energy that you can ever save is the energy that you do not use. Educating our family on turning lights off, monitors off on our computers, and controlling our air-conditioning usage can have a dramatic effect on our utility bills. Moving forward I always council my customers on using the combined technology approach that can lower your footprint and energy bills

while taking in mind long-term strategies and maintenance of these systems. Energy efficiency consists of using technologies that can reduce your energy bills first while the next step will be renewable energy technology for a long-term approach to energy independence.

Living here on Saipan we have been prisoners to foreign oil for many years, but now we do have the technology to lower our energy bills at a reasonable cost, and actually zero out our energy bills with solar energy. So the power is now in our hands to make an educated decision to install renewable energy mainly solar energy for our long-term strategy for energy independence. With net metering here on Saipan it is feasible to zero out your energy costs with a reasonable payback period to give you clean, efficient, sustainable energy for 30 plus years, actually these new solar systems if



Phil Yorio is the general manager of Micronesia Renewable Energy, Inc.-CNMI.

radation on your system. With battery technology coming mainstream now, solar energy systems can now keep the excess energy that they produce during the day to now keep this energy for nighttime use. Saipan is the perfect location for solar energy. The capitalization of our rich natural abundance the sun is not only smart, but can be very profitable.

There are ways now on Saipan to enjoy the benefits of solar energy and the savings that come along with it without putting out any monies out of pocket. Here on Saipan this is a new concept but this type of financing has been going on in the mainland United States for well over seven years now. The residential and commercial power purchase agreement is not only smart, whereas you just pay for the energy that the system produces, but also gives you the peace of mind of not having to insure or maintain the system for the life of the contract. Typically with these contracts you can start saving from Day 1 10 percent to 20 percent off what you normal-

ly pay for power. On a direct purchase of a system you start saving monies typically at Year 5, now with no monies out of pocket its day one the system is turned on.

I also believe that we also have a moral obligation to our planet, our children, and future generations that will also live on this beautiful planet to be as efficient as possible and to capitalize on this reliable power source to help clean up our planet. The acceleration of renewable energy technology along with the economies of scale could not have come at a better time with the accelerated deterioration of our oceans, the destructive climate change patterns appearing all over the world, and the fact that we are running out of oil confirms that we can no longer live as business as usual.

The business case is there, we all win with renewable energy, we save a lot of money long term, we help clean up the environment and we help ourselves to become energy independent along the way. We now have the power to change our lives. “Power to the People.”

NMTI students to help Maturana sisters repair damages

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas Trades Institute's carpentry and construction class of instructor Mike Vargas are all set to help repair and rebuild the damage sustained by the Maturana House of Prayer, which is being ran by members of the Mercedarian Missionaries of Bériz,

The Maturana House of Prayer was among the many buildings on Saipan damaged when Typhoon Soudelor barreled through the island. The youth center, house of prayer, and storage room are the facilities that need repair after Soudelor and also due to termites.

Vargas, who has been in the carpentry and construction industry for 35 years, said that he has already inspected the damaged facility and at the same time used a water blaster to clean some areas. He has also listed down the materials needed and its estimated cost.

“The only thing that we’re waiting is the budget or the materials. Then we can start with the repairs. I was there last Monday and made an inspection where we are also going to build a concrete water tank pad with the plans already done,” added Vargas.

Clyde Diaz, J.R. Elias, and Elden Dela Cruz along with seven of their classmates are ready to help repair Maturana, which also serves as the retirement home for the nuns, and at the same time hosts events and other programs



Northern Marianas Trades Institute carpentry and construction students J.R. Elias, left, and Clyde Diaz work on a project Wednesday inside their campus in Lower Base.

not only for Catholics but also other Christian groups.

“I would like to be there to help the sisters. I am the oldest in the class and I am already working as a mechanic but I love doing things that’s why I’m studying to learn carpentry and construction work,” said Diaz, who used to help family members in building and repairs with their homes.

“I want to learn a little bit of everything and it would be nice to know a lot of skills. I know I can do my share and help the sisters repair the damages,” he added.

The 19-year-old Elias, on the other hand, said the opportunity would give them more experience as they apply the things they learn in their classes like making cabinets and bookshelves.

“After Soudelor, the school still needs repairs especially the carpentry room but we’re ready to do the job for them. It would be the actual thing for us and it would help us feel great as we do something for them. I feel already blessed,” said Elias with a smile.

For Dela Cruz, who is waiting for his certification to become an instructor, he was already aware of the planned repair project at Maturana. “It would also be nice to come there and evaluate the damages. We have a lot of projects and repairing some facilities at Maturana is one of them.”

The Mercedarian sisters are also baking bread and donuts and making coconut oil and ice cups just to help raise funds for materials and repair of facilities.

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APRIL 1, 2016 FRIDAY	APRIL 2, 2016 SATURDAY	APRIL 3, 2016 SUNDAY	APRIL 6, 2016 WEDNESDAY	APRIL 8, 2016 FRIDAY	APRIL 9, 2016 SATURDAY
Buffet Lunch \$14 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25)	Seafood and Sushi Night Reg. \$35 (Local: \$25)	Sunday Brunch \$22	Buffet Lunch \$14	Buffet Lunch \$14 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25)	Seafood and Sushi Night Reg. \$35 (Local: \$25)
APRIL 10, 2016 SUNDAY	APRIL 13, 2016 WEDNESDAY	APRIL 15, 2016 FRIDAY	APRIL 16, 2016 SATURDAY	APRIL 17, 2016 SUNDAY	APRIL 20, 2016 WEDNESDAY
Sunday Brunch \$22	Buffet Lunch \$14	Buffet Lunch \$14	Seafood Night Reg. \$35 (Local: \$25)	Sunday Brunch \$22	Buffet Lunch \$14
APRIL 22, 2016 FRIDAY	APRIL 23, 2016 SATURDAY	APRIL 24, 2016 SUNDAY	APRIL 27, 2016 WEDNESDAY	APRIL 29, 2016 FRIDAY	APRIL 30, 2016 SATURDAY
Buffet Lunch \$14 Seafood Night Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25)	Seafood Night Reg. \$35 (Local: \$25)	Sunday Brunch \$22	Buffet Lunch \$14	Buffet Lunch \$14 Seafood Night Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25)	Seafood Night Reg. \$35 (Local: \$25)

* Our “Dolphin” restaurant (10th floor of Crystal Tower in Grandvrio Resort Saipan) has reopened as A-La-Carte restaurant. Welcome to enjoy fast & nice Lunch Menu (\$8-) and authentic Japanese Shabu Shabu or Sukiyaki for your dinner (\$35). Open time: Everyday Lunch: 11:30am-2:00pm Last Order: 1:30pm / Dinner 5:30pm-9:00pm Last Order: 8:30pm

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Opinion

Hafa Adair!

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

By **JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.



Reversionary right

Two years from now, the indigenous people would see—for the first time—the return of their public land and all improvements when the Marpi Land lease expires.

Therein comes into full play what's known as the reversionary rights of the indigenous people. Kan Pacific must return the land and all improvements to the indigenous landowners who would then decide the future of the property.

The subsequent use of the land, e.g., lease or other uses must come from the expressed view of the indigenous people. Yes, the use, management and disposition of public land rests with the Department of Public Land per pertinent constitutional provision. But it remains a custodian of indigenous land.

The impending return of public land is the first ever that must abide by the reversionary rights of the indigenous. This would require extensive public hearings to listen to the voice of our people before making a decision on the final disposition of the Marpi Land.

May I reiterate: The mandated return is the reversionary rights of the indigenous people. It didn't say DPL is at liberty to commence seeking prospective investors via an RFP. It could pursue such path only after securing the "will" of the local landowners! I plan to actively participate in this discussion to raise legitimate issues bringing into focus the role of indigenous landowners on any and all public land leases.

Importance of Listening

Listening is the most important trait we all should have under our belt. It grants you the opportunity to understand issues in addition to learning from your fellow man of his sentiments.

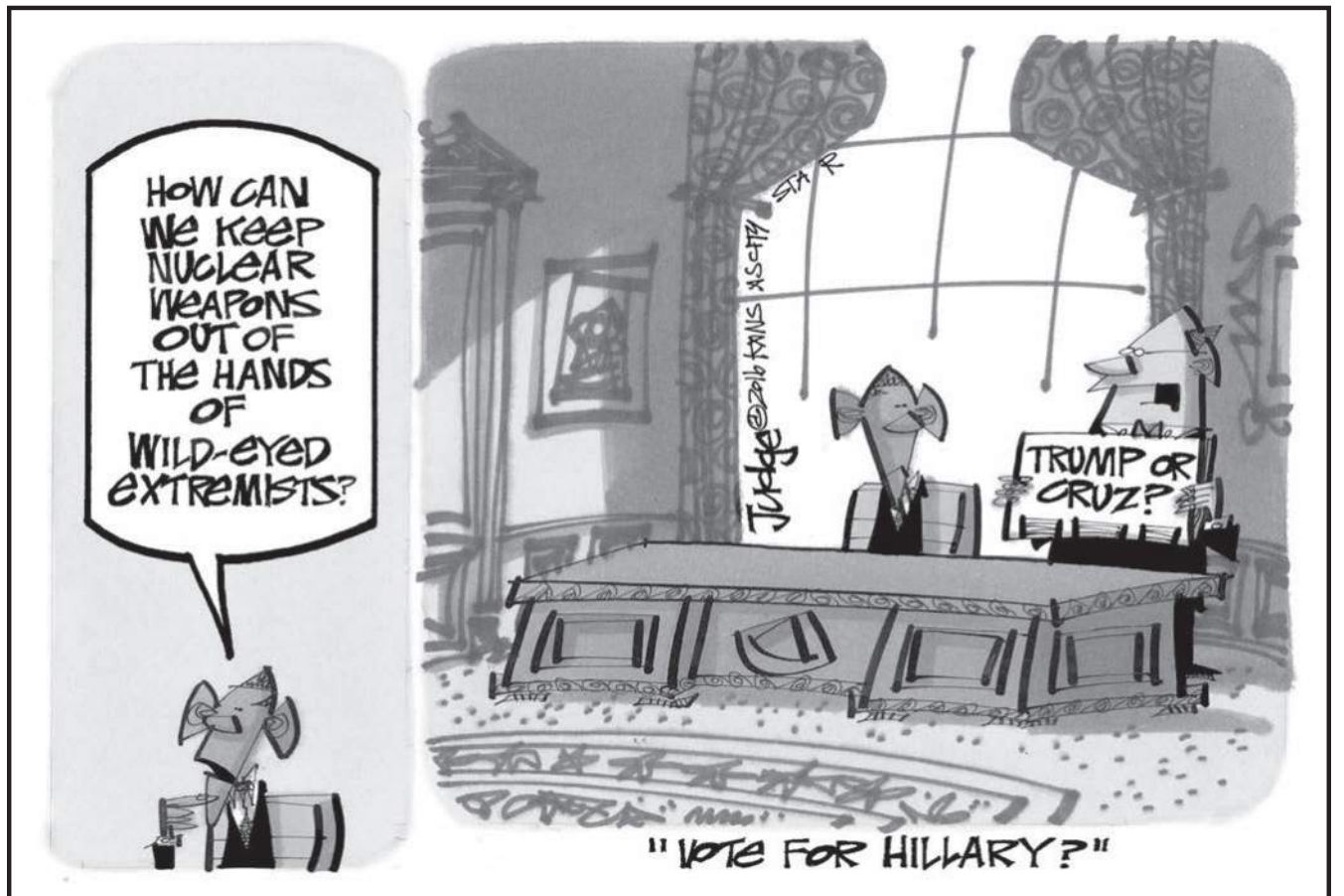
You could use your mind or heart to listen. In the first instance, it's about what's at issue regardless of who's involved. In the latter, it's who's involved.

I'd use my mind researching materials for subsequent reading and review. It's good exercise to securing clarity, depth and understanding of issues.

Nonetheless, there are matters too that require listening to the heart as a primary guide. It permits taking into full view the human side of issues. This is vital for you're dealing with people not robots.

It begins with us—ourselves, our families, and island community—our source of strength and motivation that encourage us to contribute to the common good beyond personal interests.

See REVERSIONARY on Next Page



SIOP® training for teachers

Sheltered Instructions Observation Protocol is the name of the PSS-sponsored all day training for teachers. The facilitator is a seasoned teacher who would rather be in the frontlines of teaching rather than be administering. We are glad.

I was with the Mustangs at Southern Methodist U in Dallas when the football team was so bad Johnny Carson of the *Tonight Show* quipped that even SMU "beat them." Well, it was the opening of the 1968 season and a diminutive player named Jerry LeVias (at 140 lbs) was a wizard at catching thrown footballs, so the school won an impressive come-from-behind win of the season against the Aggies. Bragging rights were intense especially against A&M, a team rated nationally. The Mustangs by the Dallas Press' thought them better poised for the sorority and fraternity parties. LeVias' pioneered in the integration of the Southwest Conference's football athletics though he was hardly welcomed on fraternity-sorority row!

Facilitator Martha Tejero of Mexican-descent who attended A&M at College Station in Texas used herself and personal stories to illustrate her deliveries, her presentation illustrating the practice of varying the kinesthetic every five minutes so as not to allow learners to get mentally weary.

The content of the SIOP training itself was cute, with many phrases for emphasis to distinguish differences. "Teachers use techniques to teach, while students strive with strategies to learn" was one I remember.

A textbook and a participant workbook almost totaling 500 pages, plus a handout of Bloom's taxonomy of verbs are presented in two Saturdays (including tomorrow's) from 8am to 4:30pm. That's a challenge of Mt. Olympus proportion. The assumption is for the participants to look at the text again, and with the workbook for assistance, that is most likely.

Not! I teach Grade 1 where the attention span is, at best, five minutes (normal adults are worth 15 minutes but like the first graders, that's a stretch). I have my first graders from 8am to 2:30pm with only a recess and a 40-minute lunch break where they are not under close academic scrutiny. That's more than five hours of varying activities every five minutes! It is doable. It just requires a lot of preparation and techniques, patience and endurance. I can swing the first three; endurance gets to be taxing when one is over 70.

My students' age ranges from 6-8, mostly at 7, with only two who avoided pre-school and Kindergarten, but they all have an assertive mind of their own. They developed a talkers' skill from the first mimicking of Mama's sound, and on first grade they are urged to "listen" since pedagogy at their level is heavy on "hear and repeat".

Ms. Tejero uses herself and her family for recognizable illustrations. Her daughter who is also a teacher was content hitting 50 percent of her mark. Martha thought she should also receive

By **JAIME VERGARA**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.



only 50 percent pay! A teacher must not accept anything but 100 percent. If at first, one does not succeed... Sounds familiar? Cute, neh!

Her son separated himself from the protection and care of Mama's roof and discovered more rain than sunshine. "Hard love" is not easy but it can be done for the sake of the other! Sounds like hard core Christendom.

Martha's SIOP facilitation greases the skids for quicker and better understanding. Being a newbie in the new PSS (I was at SVES 2003-08 before heading for Sinosphere), teaching in Dong Bei (northeast) China near Korea's Yalu River the last five years, I now adapt to the PSS' appropriation of SIOP to promote academic cognition and generic learning.

I do find literacy as a third step in my map of the brainscape; the articulation of ideas and thoughts is preceded by raw sense experiences (sight, sound, smell, taste, touch), the expressions of unadulterated feelings, before articulation in words and numbers of the sense narratives and emotive expression, but not stopping there (otherwise one becomes just an academic egghead) but proceed to the deed, in formulated plans of proposals, strategies, implemmentaries, and tactics.

Literacy is currently focused on K-3 at CNMI PSS with SIOP as the subscribed method along with many districts in the 50 States of the Union who adopted the Protocol for their curriculum.

SIOP is a model with eight identified components (lesson prep, background building, comprehensible input, strategies, interaction, practice and application, lesson delivery, and review and assessment) richly illustrated by the book and workshop's authors, as well as the guiding facilitator. It invites teachers and students to recognize their natural processes, with a high emphasis on active listening, a prescription that runs against our propensity to train young talkers. Clearly, the model supports teachers in delivering high-quality instruction.

The second session is tomorrow at Kagman Elementary School again. Martha plays as well as a LeVias. We'll play learning. We will have fun.

Night moves

College acceptance notices have been making their ways to kith and kin. Plans are being finalized. Checks are being cut. More checks must follow, and funding for said checks is being hunted. I remember when I faced this gig in high school. My first move was to find my way into a job where I could work night shifts.

By lining up night work, I was able to pile up a lot of overtime hours. I only had to do this for a summer, but it was enough to bank some much-needed college cash.

It's interesting that fully half the day isn't day, but we don't hear much about it in the working context. The term "night life" applies to leisure, not labor.

Although I never had a vampire-like attraction to midnight's call, I'm glad I made my peace with it early on. Later on, the graveyard shift I have crossed paths a number of times.

Comfort and adventure reside at opposite ends of the spectrum, and if you want to sail the seven seas, or bore holes in the sky as a pilot, or serve in uniform, or some combination of the above, you're probably going to be facing a lot of duty at "zero-dark-hundred."

And, of course, doctors, nurses, tourism workers, and critical public-service workers are also no strangers to night work, as Saipan knows.

Still, of all the industries that seem to come alive at night, I'd have to pick transportation as a prime player. Trucks and cargo planes ply their routes, tended by a vast nocturnal infrastructure of dispatchers, mechanics, load masters, fuelers, and warehouse

workers, and their midnight oil is kept burning by a related world of cooks, waiters and waitresses, hotel clerks, and so on.

I've known people who took night shifts because they were junior and low on the scheduling totem pole, only to stick with the dark side because they liked the people they worked with. The office politics and bureaucratic pettiness of the normal working day are often absent from the night routine.

Because of the challenges of darkness and fatigue, night work can be a lot less forgiving of haste or errors. This is one realm that meshes with my natural inclination to be a methodical slowpoke. Of course, nobody gives you credit for the problems you avoided by being methodical, since nobody can tally a problem that didn't show up, but that's one of life's unavoidable quirks.

Now here's something that can show up: health risks. We're not designed to go for years and years working at night. From what I've seen, those who are already carrying some un-optimal habits, such as a lot of smoking, or heavy drinking, or unwise eating, can pay a compounded health toll if there's also a lot of night work in the equation, especially when middle age comes along. In that case, when Mother Nature decides to audit our mortal books, she apparently stacks our sins as exponents.

Night work can affect people who don't even do night work. I knew an advertising man who worked in the golden days of the industry. He told me that when he was a young executive he was put on a new account for a regional beer company. A beer account didn't seem too bad, and there's a lot of room for creativity in the ads, so he was happy to draw this duty.

Well, he was happy at first, that is.

They started slicing and dicing the demographics of their tar-

sponsibility as its main core of work dealing with the economy. Everything about commerce is driven by the economy, and that should not be an impediment for this cabinet official to acknowledge full authority of this government function. So, it may be knee-jerk supposition after all, let us first settle the business of planning with the Department of Commerce.

Our economy is a small island tourist economy. It makes sense to include the business of planning concurrently with the Mariana Visitors Authority, Commonwealth Development Authority, Northern Mariana College, Commonwealth Port Authority, Commonwealth Utilities Corp., Department of Finance, Department of Labor, and Department of Public Lands. Subject matter experts on plans and planning are all employed in these departments and public corporations. Is it necessary for the government to establish another bureaucratic office to handle public plans and planning when we already have plenty?

Before our Saipan senator makes any headway on plans and planning of the CNMI economy, it would be a matter of urgency to task the outgoing and newly appointed managing director of MVA for an assessment of where the CNMI stands as small island tourist economy in its Tourism Area Life Cycle. The life cycle of a small island tourist economy has a distinct development stages and follows a pattern that depict how the economy is growing, slowing, or stagnating based on many factors. This is an important first step, if the information and data could be ascertained for public policy and information purpose. This would also aid in assuring the elected officials in the legislature and governor's office what plans and hopefully planning is necessary to continue the momentum going or shifting elements causing the retardation of economic development. You see, the life cycle of our tourism industry follow certain phases including: exploration, involvement, development, consolidation, stagnation, and decline or rejuvenation. A small island tourist economy follows a distinct life cycle, and it would be a critical part of the data and information that the senator from Saipan may value before pushing the idea to estab-

lish the Bureau of Planning Office as he seems to be suggesting.

Our small island tourist economy has its own value in pushing and pulling tourists from around the world where they find and enjoy spending their monies here. If the senator is fully schooled about our tourism industry, then has he caused to rely on data and public policy information from the MVA and Commerce about our tourism industry? Do we really know what our tourism industry comprised as a product. Saipan has been sharing a destination of sun, sea, sand, and sex, and in the next few years we might include drugs as a major attraction.

Does anyone credible in the government sector to provide information and data about: Clean and safe beaches, climate and weather, landscape and scenery, CNMI hospitality, accommodation services, exotic atmosphere, authentic indigenous culture, flora and fauna, local cuisine, safety and security, ethics, attractions, restaurants, value of money, water sports, political stability, epidemic-free location, modes of transportation, entertainment, ease of access to and from NMI, local beverages, arts and crafts, shopping opportunities, historical and cultural sites, technological advancement, land-based sports, fitness and wellness, night life, sports fishing, cultural sharing, and cooperation. These are important information and data if available. The senator would be pressed to know all these before deciding what plan and planning would be most appropriate for our small island tourist economy. Without information like these, the idea to plan for something has nowhere to go, and we end up with plans that planning never settles.

Planning is about problem. And, the important thing about a problem is not its solution, but the strength we gain in finding the solution. Progress in fact begins with getting a clear view of the obstacles. The capacity to plan and planning is full and abundant within the CNMI government, just do it. It is possible and a bureau for planning already exists, the principals are there.

Francisco R. Agulto
Kanat Tabla

By **ED STEPHENS**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.



get market, only to realize that a discernable portion of it was consuming beer in the early hours in some taverns. These taverns were near factories that ran shifts all around the clock. When the graveyard shift showed up after work, it was pretty much what everyone else considered breakfast time.

In order to get an eyeball-to-eyeball feel for this part of the action, the ad man was assigned to morning duty in some of these taverns. He'd drink beer, try not to look like an executive, and just sort of blend in and observe the market first hand. This totally blew the rest of his day, and he was glad when this part of the project was behind him. He said a three-beer breakfast is a lot harder on the brain than a three-martini lunch.

Well, that was an old-school tale, and the new school has concerns of its own as it faces college and the future. The leaden realities of a blue-collar night job might not jibe with the sunny promise of college, but, in my case, an empty checking account tied those two opposite concepts together.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The importance of planning

The senator representing Saipan has a very likeable idea that seems to suggest as the panacea for solutions and problem solving the basket of opportunities, strengths, threats, and weaknesses of the CNMI's economy present and future endeavors. That is commendable, but what prompting such move must have been triggered by a credible source or our senator could no longer tolerate the uncertain ways our government is addressing the problems we have, and we could do better by way of planning in a Bureau of Planning or Planning Commission. Why not also consider establishing an office to deal with public policy before it makes its way to the Legislature for action. Such office may involve the Bureau of Public Policy Study. Then again, an office of Bureau of Public Litigation would be a perfect advocate and gatekeeper to keep and ensure the transparency of elected officials actions transparent that would ward off any and all corruptions that prey those in public offices.

Has our esteemed senator realized that our government has offices established to deal with matters relating to plans, planning, and public policy on the economy and economic development? The Department of Commerce, for example, was not established just to count for the consumer price index. This office serves a very important part that deals with the economy of the CNMI. If this office has not attained its saturation point, then the Bureau of Planning should rests well in this office. It would be a welcome undertaking for the Secretary of Commerce to assume this re-

REVERSIONARY

From Page 12

Our democracy is supposed to be a form of governance that encourages and demands prioritizing for the common good over smaller vested interests. You can't pervert or camouflage it employing the "bait and switch" scheme by simply ignoring the people who placed you in office. This is sheer greed and breeding ground for corruption! Are you still listening?

Understanding Concepts

Appalling that even after 40 years we still confuse the difference in the concepts of self-government and sovereignty. There's a significance difference in the two. If you review Covenant Agreement Sections 101-105 you'd see defined in plain simple English the role of our national government—US of A—and ours in internal self-rule. The former is an independent country, ours is a political subservency of the U.S.

The confusion lies in the local mindset that the NMI is sovereign and could do whatever it pleases as to brave redefining self-government to mean legal and political independence. No sir! We gave up sovereignty under Covenant Section 101. In other

land, but islands) does nothing but raise suspicion in our relationship. Sure, I understand the concept of sovereignty but does it mean the willful acquisition of indigenous land where we're left with more questions in our relationship with the feds? It's indigenous land!

Yes, I refuse to listen to internal self-government inadequacies but the acquisition of islands has gone beyond the agreement. Understandably, I know that this must be the usual version of colonial pedagogy! This must change!

Special Election: There's continuing debate on whether there should be a special election for the top two most coveted seat in the NMI. The legislature should submit a certified question to the NMI Supreme Court for review and disposition. Only then would the issue be retired permanently.


The view among the electorate is that they never voted for either of the two people as governor and lieutenant governor. Thus the absence of a clear mandate from "we the people" making it imperative that the legislature submits a certified query for resolution with finality.

I'm not soliciting for another legal blather. Judicial review and disposition should be the path to putting this matter behind us.

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian


TODAY



Mostly sunny with isolated light showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.

▲87° ▼75°


SATURDAY



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.

▲86° ▼75°


SUNDAY



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲86° ▼75°


MONDAY



Partly cloudy with a slight chance of light showers.

▲87° ▼75°

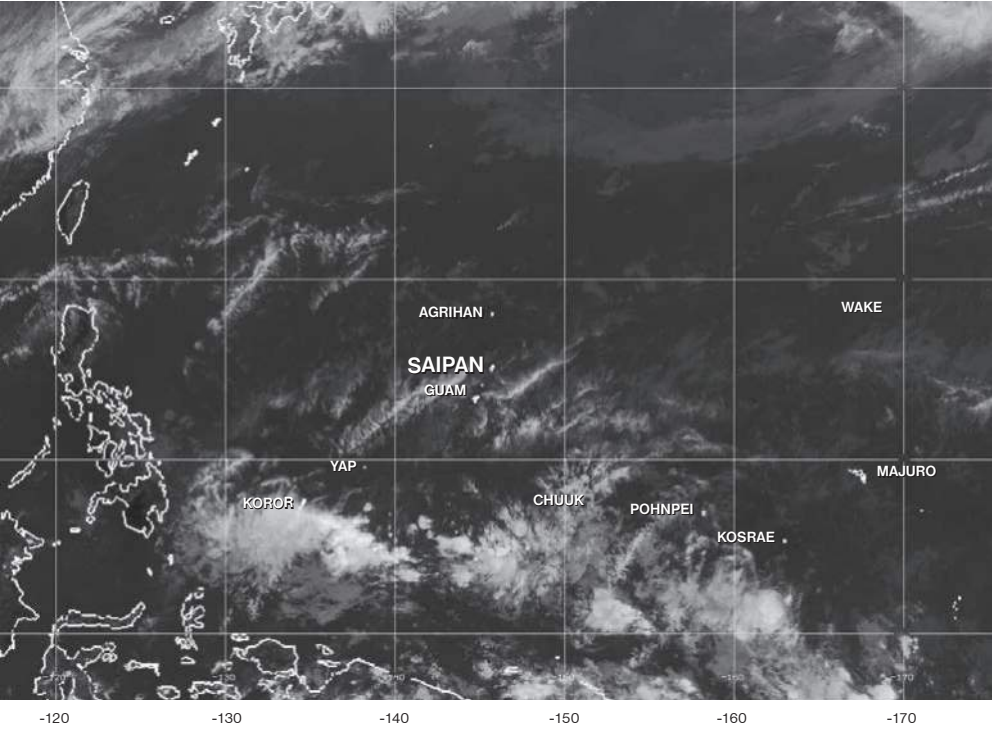
TUESDAY



Partly cloudy with a slight chance of light showers.

▲87° ▼75°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 12:47 PM, THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 2016
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

An old shear line extends east-northeastward from south of Guam at 10N144E to 14N161E then turns east to pass south of Wake Island at 14N166E before continuing beyond the date line at 13N. Widely scattered showers are seen along and up to 150 miles north of this feature. A near-equatorial trough curves southeastward from near Mindanao through 5N130E to end south of Pohnpei at EQ157E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found north of the trough near Koror within 180 miles of 5N133E and south of Chuuk and Pohnpei within 150 miles of a line from 4N147E to EQ160E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia			
Guam And Rota	Partly Cloudy	▲ 87	▼ 78
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲ 88	▼ 79
Yap	Partly Cloudy	▲ 92	▼ 79
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	▲ 87	▼ 80
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	▲ 87	▼ 79
Kosrae	Showers	▲ 84	▼ 81
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	▲ 85	▼ 80

Around the Globe			
Auckland	Cloudy	▲ 73	▼ 60
Beijing	Sunny	▲ 78	▼ 49
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲ 77	▼ 70
Honolulu	Windy	▲ 80	▼ 70
London	Cloudy	▲ 57	▼ 44
Los Angeles	Cloudy	▲ 70	▼ 55
Manila	Mostly Sunny	▲ 95	▼ 77
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲ 73	▼ 49
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲ 86	▼ 66
New York	Rain	▲ 58	▼ 44
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲ 67	▼ 52
Paris	Showers	▲ 57	▼ 40
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲ 69	▼ 48
Rome	Showers	▲ 65	▼ 53
Salem	Sunny	▲ 83	▼ 51
San Francisco	Cloudy	▲ 67	▼ 55
Seoul	Sunny	▲ 66	▼ 43
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲ 69	▼ 52
Washington, DC	Rain	▲ 63	▼ 42



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PAPA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT &E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
3:09 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.3 Feet
8:59 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet
3:35 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet
9:47 PM	Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset		
Today	6:08 AM	6:30 PM
Saturday	6:07 AM	6:31 PM
Sunday	6:06 AM	6:31 PM
Monday	6:05 AM	6:31 PM
Tuesday	6:05 AM	6:31 PM

Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	6:37 AM	7:22 PM
Saturday	7:30 AM	8:25 PM
Sunday	8:24 AM	9:27 PM
Monday	9:19 AM	10:27 PM
Tuesday	10:15 AM	11:25 PM

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 1, 2016							
DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily	UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota	UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6	UA2920	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily	UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily	UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL297	4:20pm	7:10pm	Daily	DL298	10:35am	3:10pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1	7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ628	3:50am	7:40am	Daily	OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3403	4:35am	8:30am	Daily	OZ627	9:30pm	2:50am+1	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily	7C3404	10:10pm	3:30am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	5:30am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:10am	11:15am	1 via ICN	UA190/2927	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:15am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	UA190/2929	9:55am	9:20pm	2, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2924/191	4:15am	9:00am	3, 6 via GUM	UA190/2927	10:00am	5:35pm	3 via GUM
UA2924/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	Daily via GUM	UA190/2929	10:00am	9:20pm	3 via GUM
UA2922/183	8:40am	9:30pm	2, 5 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
UA2922/183	8:40am	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA2922/193	8:40am	11:10pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR	OZ702/627	12:30pm	2:50am+1	Daily via ICN
UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:30pm	5 via Rota-GUM	PR110/UA2925	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:50pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM	UA192/2925	10:20pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA2921/193	1:30pm	11:10pm	5 via Rota-GUM	UA192/2920	10:20pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA2920/183	2:20pm	9:30pm	2 via GUM	UA192/2927	10:20pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA2920/183	2:20pm	9:50pm	3, 6 via GUM	UA192/2929	10:20pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA2920/193	2:20pm	11:10pm	2 via GUM-ROR	UA184/2925	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2928/183	6:05pm	9:30pm	2, 5 via GUM	UA184/2921	10:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2928/183	6:05pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	UA184/2920	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	1 via GUM-Rota
UA2928/193	6:05pm	11:10pm	2, 5 via GUM	UA184/2927	10:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2926/191	9:50pm	7:20am+1	1, 6 via GUM	UA184/2929	10:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2926/191	9:50pm	9:00am+1	3, 6 via GUM	UA184/2925	11:59pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
				UA184/2920	11:59pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
				UA184/2927	11:59pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via GUM
				UA184/2929	11:59pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ628/721	3:50am	12:50am	Daily via ICN	OZ724/627	2:20pm	2:50am+1	Daily via ICN
UA2922/159	8:40am	10:35pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM	UA116/2925	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA2921/159	1:30pm	10:35pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM	UA116/2921	10:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 6 via GUM
UA2920/159	2:20pm	10:35pm	3, 6 via GUM	UA116/2920	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota
				UA116/2927	10:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
				UA116/2929	10:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN			SAIPAN TO TINIAN			SAIPAN TO ROTA		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily	7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily	4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily			
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily			
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily			
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily	12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily	ROTA TO SAIPAN		
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily	8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily	4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily			
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily			
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily			
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily						

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The sky is falling

The sky is falling! Remember that line? Well, it's back, this time from our own government in response to the court's decision on the gun issue. First the shock and horror then panic followed by speeches about looking out for public safety, questions about our sovereignty, our laws versus those of the U.S. and ultimately, the need to enact strict ordinances to fill the gap opened up by the court's decision. What's going on? It's as if we're a bunch of juveniles running around without a clue as to what just happened.

The reactions Saipan-wide reflected what can only be

described as mass hysteria with claims of our impending death at the hands of the gun owners. One guy claimed that now anyone can own a cannon. Huh? Another was horrified at the thought that guns are finally legal and fears for his safety, again from those despicable, hell-bent at death and destruction gun-toting normal people who just happen to understand their gun rights. Kinda funny really, people did not even know they had a right to bear arms. And others are horrified at the thought of guns being legal. Well, let's see, the 2nd Amendment applied in 1976, wow, that was

40 long years ago. Where have you all been?

I do understand the many reactions I've witnessed, there are people who will do anything to create mass hysteria thru fear mongering. This is simply irresponsible and if the rumors and lies are coming from misguided government officials, shame on them. This is their reveal moment. They're showing their ignorance not only on guns but the Covenant and their rights contained therein. For those people, please act responsibly or do not act at all. Stop acting like kids who did not get what they wanted.

The 19th Legislature, the AG, and the Torres administration are busy trying to undermine our newly discovered right to bear arms thru very strict guidelines, and requirements topped off with hefty fees for those who want to

simply exercise their right under the law, federal law. Once again, the CNMI government is making a mockery of the 2nd Amendment. Should they end up infringing on our right through dumb fees and targeted laws, they shall end up with another case, this time perhaps with a monetary award. Can the government afford more lawsuits?

Well, this being an election year, I will not be surprised. But why all these senseless battles over a right under the U.S. Constitution which has applied since 1976? The decision by the court only stated the obvious. No conditions, no excuses, nothing new. It is the law.

So, to avoid the having to reinvent anything, the AG and Legislature should sit down and using massive amounts of logic and common sense, address the shortcomings of our gov-

ernment with respect to what needs to be done. And instead of copying and pasting the most stringent ownership and registration guidelines found in the U.S., work on something simple but a lot more effective. Here's a short list:

1. Account for all those guns that were confiscated since 1976. If they are missing from the DPS Armory, then someone should be held accountable. And there are guns missing, let's not deny this. Why 1976? Because the 2d Amendment applied then and through the last 40 years. If our PL 6-38 was struck down then what are the implications on our government's actions in gun confiscations in the past? More liabilities?

2. Do not enact new legislation that will infringe on our right to bear arms. This will open the doors to new interpretations and possibly

more lawsuits.

3. Come up with a consistent and comprehensive guideline and policy which should include 90-day amnesty period to allow for all guns in the CNMI to be registered and accounted for. To state that all guns currently illegal will be confiscated will do nothing but drive them all underground improving the chances they will end up on the streets in the hands of the criminals. These guns were illegal because of the restrictions imposed by an illegal public law. Aren't we all after public safety?

4. Draw up strict sentencing guidelines for gun-related crimes and permanently ban felons from ever owning guns.

5. The guideline and policy should include a residency requirement. One has to be domiciled in the CNMI for a

See **FALLING** on Page 16



Northern Marianas College PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH

Northern Marianas College is currently accepting applications for the position of President. The President of the Northern Marianas College serves as the chief executive officer for the Board of Regents and oversees a multi-campus college system located on three separate islands (Saipan, main campus; Rota and Tinian).

Northern Marianas College is a Land Grant Institution that is accredited by the Senior College and University Commission of the Western Association for Schools and Colleges. Founded in 1981, its focus continues to be ensuring student success and meeting the higher education and vocational training needs of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The institution has developed a comprehensive set of academic programs and services that address the social, cultural and economic development needs of its island communities.

Today, approximately 1,100 students are enrolled in credit programs that lead to an associate or bachelor's degree in the following areas: education, business, liberal arts, natural resource management, nursing, business administration, criminal justice, and hospitality management. The College also offers many non-credit, continuing education courses that are offered in various formats (online, hybrid, short-term, accelerated, etc.) throughout the year.

The President will report to the Board of Regents and will be expected to carry out the mission and vision of the College:

Mission: Northern Marianas College, through its commitment to student learning, provides high quality, affordable and accessible educational programs and services for the individual and people of the Commonwealth.

Vision: Northern Marianas College will serve as the engine to drive the economic growth and the social and cultural vitality of the Commonwealth.

Minimum Qualifications

- Earned doctorate degree from a U.S. accredited university or foreign equivalent;
- Seven (7) years of executive level management experience in an institution of higher education of which five (5) years are continuous, or a combination of at least seven (7) years of executive level management including post-secondary education teaching experience;
- Experience working in a multicultural environment, preferably in the Pacific region and in the Northern Mariana Islands;
- Substantiated experience in accreditation processes, personnel management, budget development and presentation, strategic planning and institutional assessment, fundraising, mediation, and team building; and
- Demonstrated knowledge of federal programs and grants application to higher education.

The salary for the position is \$80,000 to \$100,000 per annum plus benefits. Applicants with degrees from non-U.S. accredited institutions are responsible for providing an official evaluation of their degrees from an acceptable credential evaluation service to determine U.S. equivalency.

Applicants should include a curriculum vitae indicating their competencies in Organizational Strategy, Resource Management, Communication, Collaboration, College Advocacy, and Professionalism; official transcripts; list of published journal work or scholarly research; three personal and three professional references (complete with name, title, address, phone/email contact); and four letters of professional recommendations specific to this position. Complete application packages and documents should be sent by certified priority mail and must be received by the closing date of April 15, 2016 for full consideration, to:

Ms. Cynthia I. Deleon Guerrero
Chairperson, Presidential Search Committee
Northern Marianas College (Attention: Human Resources Office)
P.O. Box 501250, Saipan, MP 96950

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas College that equal opportunity be given to all qualified applicants without regard to age, race, gender, marital status, place of origin, religion, disability status, political affiliation, family relationship, or genetic information (GINA). The College is an Equal Opportunity Employer. The College reserves the option to extend the closing date. For more information about this position announcement and about the College, visit www.marianas.edu.



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- ☞ 670-484-5821 ☞
- ☞ legendrealtycnmi@gmail.com ☞

INFORMATION REQUIRED:

- ☞ Map location ☞
- ☞ Total Area ☞
- ☞ Building area (if with existing building) ☞
- ☞ Title information ☞
- ☞ Asking price ☞

CSC works to update Civil Service compensation program

The Civil Service Commission is continuing to push for a new compensation plan to replace the current salary schedule and compensation statute. The commission is working with the Legislature and the administration of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres to finalize approval of the draft bill submitted in 2014 to the Legislature to update the current salary schedule for Commonwealth Government Civil Service employees. The current schedule was established by Public Law 7-31 in 1991.

Commission chair Herman Deleon Guerrero stated: "The Civil Service Commission has met recently with Governor Ralph Torres and separately with the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ralph Demapan, Vice Speaker Joseph

Deleon Guerrero, and chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, Representative Antonio Sablan on this matter. In each meeting we discussed the significance of this bill in bringing an obsolete pay schedule up to date and in modifying the overall compensation plan."

Deleon Guerrero further said that the conversations with the governor and the speaker had been positive and he felt that action would be taken in the near future to finalize the bill into law. "Our current compensation program and salary schedule is 25 years old and is almost unusable. Immediate action must be taken on behalf of our deserving government employees. It's long overdue."

"The commission is con-

cerned with the current compensation stagnation of the government's civil service employees. The current schedule is outdated, with the first 10 out of 35 pay levels unusable because they fall almost entirely below the current minimum wage. For reasons related to both employee welfare and the technical viability of the current statutory pay schedule, action needs to be taken to correct this situation," he continued.

"The commission and the Office of Personnel Management worked together to prepare a draft bill, with a revised salary schedule included, that will revise the compensation program for the Commonwealth's civil service employees to be more economically realistic and will introduce

a new salary schedule that complies with the current and future federal minimum wage program. The commission submitted its proposed bill to the Legislature for its review and, we are urging their approval. At the same time, the Commission has been working with the governor to emphasize the need to finalize the bill and give the Commonwealth an updated compensation program.

"Since its reorganization

in December 2012," Deleon Guerrero stated, "the Civil Service Commission has been active in its representation of the Commonwealth's Civil Service employees. Through its support of the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), its efforts to resolve a backlog of personnel grievances and appeals, and its attempts to revise the current outdated compensation plan and restart the within-grade increase program, the

commission has been seeking to improve the employment conditions for the Civil Service staff of the Government."

Aside from Deleon Guerrero, the current members of the Civil Service Commission are Felicitas "Tee" P. Abraham, vice chairperson; Charles M. Calvo (Saipan), Arsene M. Borja (Tinian), Catalina L. Tebit (Saipan), and Valerie Q. Apatang (Rota), commissioners. (PR)

FALLING

From Page 15

certain period applying for a gun license.

6. Fees should not change. There is no need for the imposition of astronomical and exorbitant fees for gun registration. Guns should not serve as the primary source of revenue for the CNMI, okay? Take a long hard look at what we settled for in exchange for an EXCLUSIVE casino license and you will get a clue.

7. Gun training, safety training. Many in the CNMI have had infinitely more experience with guns than our local law enforcement. To mandate training for every gun owner will be dumb and stupid. Totally understandable for new

licensees.

8. DPS needs to design and build a spent bullet collection system for all guns with a rifled barrel so it can maintain a library of who has which gun to facilitate the identification of the perpetrators in most firearms related incidents. This will make gun owners think twice before pulling the trigger.

9. Gun safes and trigger lock mechanisms hinder a homeowner's reaction time in self-defense. Avoid these at all costs.

10. Establish a 180-day amnesty period to allow guns currently not registered to be registered. Failure to do this will only promote illegal gun ownership and wreak havoc with law enforcement and ul-

timately defeat the purpose of having control, not good when you're using public safety as the primary excuse for said ordinances.

One last thing, there was an article on the net which stated that the CNMI Legislature wants the government to confiscate all guns not registered prior to the court's decision. Wait, if the court rules our gun law unconstitutional, then it invalidated that law and the only law applicable is the 2nd Amendment. The government considers unregistered guns to be illegal using an illegal law as the justification. What? Come again?

Roy S. Reyes

Via email



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Exchange students from Beijing learn about public service

Part of a pilot exchange program to bridge Asia-Pacific relations, the administration of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres welcomed three students from Beijing, China to the Office of the Governor.

Nancy Feng, a freshman from Harrow International School, spent her first day working in the administration's main office setting up appointments for various agencies. Feng also spent the day with the Office of Communications and Protocol learning about Adobe Photoshop, proclamations, and groundbreaking ceremonies.

"I had a really fun three days working with the people at the Executive Branch. I learned a lot of stuff. It is not easy and knowing how a government works has made me grow. Thank you very much for this opportunity," she said.

Siblings Marissa and Macardle Meng got a sneak peek into the role of media and the Executive Branch.

Macardle, a 9th grader from Western Academy, spent a full day learning about the CNMI's tourism plan, the unique relationship between the United States and the CNMI through the Covenant, and some of the CNMI's future developments.

He noted that there is a lot of work involved in preparing and planning for the CNMI.

Macardle, who also has experience in design and coding, provided his input on government web design.

"I really want to thank you for the opportunity to intern at the Governor's Office. I really appreciate the opportunity to read some of the documents such as the master plan for CNMI tourism. I love the experience as a whole," he said.

KagHS to issue 3Q report card today

Kagman High School is issuing all third quarter report cards today, April 8, 2016, to be sent home with students. Please, remind your child to show you their reports! Parents who want to request meetings with teachers or counselors may call the main office to set appointments at 664-3780 or e-mail: khsa-yuyu@kagmanhigh.org. (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Students from Beijing, China Nancy Feng and siblings Marissa and Macardle Meng are in the CNMI as part of the administration of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' pilot exchange program to bridge Asia-Pacific relations.

Western Academy, drafted her first press release and helped arrange the administration's protocol directory.

"I learned a lot of stuff about the government for the past three days especially the different departments. I also learned about the [role of media] in government. Thank you," she says.

Torres stated this pilot program is one of many avenues for strengthening the tourism

industry and tapping into different niches.

"Sports tourism, eco-tourism, and educational tourism

are some of what we want to develop more," he said.

All three students will be headed to Tinian for the rest

of the week to spend time at the Tinian Mayor's Office and will headed back to Beijing on April 10. (PR)

3A'S POLYSHINE

Home of 'V-KOOL'
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Submit a typed resume or call 670-235-8938 to arrange for an interview before or on 15th APRIL 2016 at 3A'S POLYSHINE, CK, Beach Road.

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Applications can be obtained and submitted at L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Friday, April 22, 2016.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.



PRESENTS

th Annual CNMI ART COMPETITION

Categories

Paintings

Open Category

1st Prize: \$1,500

2nd Prize: \$1,000

Ages 29 & below

1st Prize: \$1,000

2nd Prize: \$500

Wood Carving and Others

1st Prize: \$1,500

2nd Prize: \$1,000

Photography

1st Prize: \$1,500

2nd Prize: \$1,000

Governors Choice Award

\$1,000

Best of Show

\$2,500

2-D and 3-D Entries Accepted
(Limit 2 entries per artist)

Deadline of submissions is April 13, 2016 (No Later than 5 pm)

Please submit entries to:

Bridge Capital, LLC, Bridge Capital Building, Micro Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950
(Monday-Friday, 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM)

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Excellent job for GCA students in PGFC Regionals

Thirteen Grace Christian Academy students bagged 14 out of 60 major awards for both divisions: kindergarten to 2nd grade and 3rd grade to 5th grade in the 2016 Primary Grades Forensic Conference regional competition held last March 29 at the GCA Saipan campus.

The first to third placers were awarded with gold, silver, and bronze medals and the fourth and fifth placers were given ribbons, respectively. The winners of gold medals are 1st grade Maria Sofia Gomez for Humorous Interpretation and 5th grade Soleil Lamar for Impromptu

Speaking. The silver medalists are 3rd grade Jennifer Woo for Dramatic Interpretation and 4th grade Sara Keaton for Impromptu Speaking. The bronze medalists are 2nd graders Earl Jean Pantaleon for Humorous Interpretation and Nestor Ablog Jr. for Impromptu Speaking; and also 3rd graders Moira Grace Ernest for Dramatic Interpretation and Tae Hee Kim for Reader's Forum.

The fourth placers were 3rd grader Tae Hee Kim for Humorous Interpretation, 2nd graders Azriel Fatialofa, and 5th grader Brandie Matsumoto

both for Impromptu Speaking. The fifth placers were 4th graders Julia Jinang for Impromptu Speaking and Juruel Neilan Magtalas for Reader's Forum and the 5th grade tandem of Soleil Lamar and Hye Jin Elliot for Duo Interpretation.

The administration, faculty staff, and parents of Grace Christian Academy would like to extend their congratulations to all the winners and thank everyone who participated including the coaches and judges in this year's PGFC competitions.

Organized by the National Forensic League board and

supported by the CNMI Public School System; Kindergarten to 5th grade students from private and public schools vied for this year's PGFC regional awards in forensic arts: reading, public speaking, and interpretations.

Below is the list of all GCA 2016 PGFC regional competition winners in the first/semi-finals/final rounds.

K-2 Division

FINAL ROUND WINNERS

Humorous Interpretation
Maria Sofia Gomez, 1st Place

Earl Jean Pantaleon, 3rd Place

Impromptu Speaking
Nestor Ablog Jr., 3rd Place
Azriel Fatialofa, 4th Place

FIRST ROUND, SEMI/FINALIST WINNERS

Humorous Interpretation
Maria Sofia Gomez
Earl Jean Pantaleon

Dramatic Interpretation
William Cano

Impromptu Speaking

Nestor Ablog Jr.
Ethan John Quichocho
Yellena Sarang Kim
Earl Jean Pantaleon
Azriel Fatialofa
William Cano
Marisa Wang
Akira Ito
Llayana Jaira Manalang
Aiyana Fatialofa

Reader's Forum

Nestor Ablog Jr.
Azriel Fatialofa
Yellena Sarang Kim
Ethan John Quichocho

Humorous Interpretation
Tae Hee Kim, 4th Place

Duo Interpretation
Soleil Lamar, 5th Place
Hye Jin Elliot, 5th Place

FIRST ROUND, SEMI/FINALIST WINNERS

Impromptu Speaking
Soleil Lamar
Sara Elizabeth Keaton
Brandie Matsumoto
Julia Jinang
Tae Young Kim
Julianna Rue Magtalas

Duo Interpretation
Soleil Lamar
Hye Jin Elliot

Dramatic Interpretation
Jennifer Woo
Moira Grace Ernest
Steven Adriatico

Reader's Forum

Tae Hee Kim
Jennifer Woo
Juruel Neilan Magtalas
Sara Elizabeth Keaton
Steven Adriatico
Matthew Gabriel Ernest

3-5 Division

FINAL ROUND WINNERS

Impromptu Speaking
Soleil Lamar, 1st Place
Sara Elizabeth Keaton, 2nd Place
Brandie Matsumoto, 4th Place
Julia Jinang, 5th Place

Reader's Forum

Tae Hee Kim, 3rd Place
Juruel Neilan Magtalas, 5th Place

Dramatic Interpretation

Jennifer Woo, 2nd Place
Moira Grace Ernest, 3rd Place

Teacher/Coach

K-5, Mrs. Sheryl Prieto
First Grade, Mrs. Rosanna

Lopez
Second Grade, Mrs. Miriam

Dilse
Third Grade, Miss Maria

Gerecke
Fourth Grade, Miss Tammy

Damer
Fifth Grade, Miss Grace

Duran

PGFC Coordinator, Mrs.

Esther Manzano

GCA PGFC judge/volunteers: Sheryl Prieto, Leah Garfil, Tammy Damer, Bethany Garfil, Minna Ito, Charissa Parco, and Chesca Dalusung. (PR)

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST REQUEST FOR QUALIFIED PROPOSALS – SHIP-IV FOUR HOUSES IN SAIPAN AND TWO HOUSES ON SINAPALO, ROTA

The Marianas Public Land Trust (MPLT) announces this request for qualified proposals for the following:

1) Two-story 5 Bedroom Concrete House in Kannat Tabla, Saipan - 1 unit



MPLT SHIP 003

2-story / 5-Bedroom / 3-bath Concrete House
Septic tank system
Good Condition **Appraised Value \$156,000.00**
Kannat Tabla
Special Condition: Open to all qualified Northern Marianas Descent.

2) Two-story 4 Bedroom Concrete House located in Kagman, Saipan - 1 unit



MPLT SHIP 013

2-story / 4-Bedroom / 2-bath Concrete House
Septic tank system
Fair Condition **Appraised Value \$73,000.00**
Kagman II
Special Condition: Open to all qualified Northern Marianas Descent.

3) 2 Bedroom Concrete House in Kagman, Saipan - 1 unit



MPLT SHIP 014

2-Bedroom / 1-bath Concrete House
Septic tank system
Good Condition **Appraised Value \$38,000.00**
Kagman III
Special Condition: Open to all qualified first-time homeowner & Northern Marianas Descent.

4) Two-story 4 Bedroom Concrete House Sinapalo, Rota - 1 unit



MPLT SHIP 015

2-story / 4-Bedroom / 3-bath Concrete House
Septic tank system
Good Condition **Appraised Value \$50,000.00**
Sinapalo, Subdivision
Special Condition: Open to all qualified Northern Marianas Descent.

5) 2 Bedroom Concrete House located in Sinapalo, Rota 1- unit



MPLT SHIP 016

2-Bedroom / 1-bath Concrete House
Septic tank system
Good Condition **Appraised Value \$35,000.00**
Sinapalo, Rota
Special Condition: Open to all qualified Northern Marianas Descent.

6) 1 Bedroom Concrete Houses located in Kagman Saipan - 1 unit



MPLT SHIP 017

1 Bedroom 1-bath Concrete House
Septic tank system
Good Condition **Appraised Value \$48,000.00**
Kagman III
Special Condition: Open to all qualified first-time homeowner & Northern Marianas Descent.

MPLT Resolution 10-10-A2 establishes the Supplemental Home Investment Program (SHIP), under the program, MPLT offers these acquired homes in its inventory to qualified persons. The three significant qualification requirements include the following: 1) the homes are offered at the minimum appraised value; 2) each proposer is credit-worthy for debt-service for the amount of the appraised value of the home; and 3) the proposer is certified as qualified under the CNMI Homestead Program with the CNMI Department of Public Lands, Homestead Division.

The interest rate is 2% per annum fixed under the program.

Notice is given to all proposers that there are no warranties of any kind as to any of the homes under the SHIP program. Homes are presented for proposals "as is and where is" without warranties as to habitability, suitability or fitness for purpose. It is the responsibility of each interested proposer to inspect or commission an inspection of the property.

In this announcement MPLT solicits qualified proposals for the acquired houses listed above. They are not subject to the right of redemption. Below is a photograph and short description of each home as well as the minimum appraised value. Interested proposers may pick up the application packets at the MPLT Office at House No. 1222, Capital Hill; or with the MPLT Loan Administrator (Bank of Saipan) in Chalan Kanoa or at www.mplt.gov.mp

The deadline for submission of proposals for any of the houses is **Friday, April 29, 2016 at 4:00PM.**

MPLT hereby reserves the right to cancel, modify or reject this RFP and any proposals should the Trustees determine that doing so is in the best interest of the Trust.



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building
P.O. Box 501220 CK • Saipan, MP 96950-1220
Telephone: (670) 664-4282 • Facsimile: (670) 235-5131

NOTICE OF POSTPONEMENT OF CPUC PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the public hearing of the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission on the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation's formal request to eliminate the Water Electric Charge and the Wastewater Electric Charge and to increase the electric rates, fees and/or charges, originally scheduled for April 13-15, 2016, has been postponed until further notice.

PIC promotes Duenas to executive director of Rooms

Pacific Islands Club Saipan general manager Hiro Sugie announced the promotion of David C. Duenas to director of Rooms, an executive position.

"David has been a key part of our success, having been with the company since it began operations in 1987, and we are elated about his promotion to the executive level," said Sugie.

Duenas will have the primary responsibility for the Rooms Department comprising of the Front Office, Guest Relations, PBX Operator, Guest Services, and House-keeping Department.

Duenas' career with PIC Saipan began as a Front Desk supervisor, after having worked for a year at the former Hafadai Beach Hotel in Garapan. Duenas said, "I saw the advertisement in the newspaper, and decided to apply for the position, although I did not have a lot of experience work-

ing at a hotel."

Born and raised on Saipan, Duenas does not shy away from strenuous work.

While in high school, Duenas earned money by mowing lawns and yard-cleaning on the weekends. "That's how I learned about making money and I worked hard even under the hot sun, to become independent."

When asked why he chose a career in the hospitality industry, Duenas said, "I've always dealt with customers, be it the yard owners, or hotel guests, and so I learned early on that without guests and customers, the business cannot survive. We have to provide the best services so that our guests come back again."

Duenas spoke at length about the crew he works with, and how much he is enjoying his job because of the support that he receives from everyone. "He's cool, even if we make mistakes," commented Davrine Joab, PBX operator.

When problems do occur, he seeks input from managers and supervisors to quickly resolve the glitches. He says, a good leader listens and strives for effective communication. To be successful, in Duenas' opinion, one must be a constant learner, especially in the field of information technology (IT).

Colleagues at the PIC describe Duenas as "fair", "tough," and "accessible." "He's easy to talk to and we know that he's consistent with decisions that he makes," said

Anna Yushkova, assistant Front Office manager.

One challenge that Duenas faces as the director is the hiring of staff at the supervisory level. Most employees are hired at the entry level as a front desk clerk.

"Training the staff the required skills and responsibilities enables them to move up through the ranks," said Duenas.

The PIC Saipan, particularly the Front Office, is a 24-hour-a-day, seven-day-a-week, operation. Another

hurdle Duenas encounters is the scarcity of applicants who can speak a foreign language, a valuable skill for employees working at the Front Desk.

Visitors that stay at the PIC Saipan are primarily from Korea, Japan, Russia, and China. Duenas credits the first PIC Saipan general manager, Terry Short, as making an impact in developing his career path. Short was hired out of Australia, and while he was on Saipan, was well-known for expressing genuine con-



Duenas

Saipan Comfort Homes breaks ground on housing development

Nearly 50 guests attended Saipan Comfort Homes' groundbreaking ceremony last April 5. Among the attendees were Gov. Ralph D.L.G. Torres, Mayor David M. Apatang, Delegate Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan, Black Construction senior vice president and general manager Leonard Kaae, Northern Marianas Housing Corp. acting executive director Zennie P. Mafnas, and Northern Marianas College interim president David Attao.

The need for more affordable housing in the area was echoed throughout the event speeches. Mafnas stated, "NMHC does recognize the demand for housing in the CNMI is great, most especially after the devastation that Typhoon Soudelor caused to many homes. With LITHC projects such as this, CNMI families are able to rebuild their lives and the new, value-added housing units will contribute to the economic and social well-being of the entire CNMI."

The topping off ceremony is set for October 2016 with the units ready for tenants in February 2017.

This is not the first affordable housing development undertaken by Triple J Enterprises. Sandy Beach Homes was complete in 2011 and continues to have 100 percent full occupancy with a waiting list. The completion of Saipan Comfort Homes will help fill the current demand for high-quality, affordable housing. Two-bedroom/bathroom rental units for Saipan Comfort Homes will start at \$640. (PR)

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Advance happy birthday Tarshia Limes Olopai, who will be celebrating her birthday on April 9. May you have a blessed special day! Enjoy and much love from Kai, MyLia, and Franklin.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 8th birthday to our shining star MiahRenisha Peter DLCruz. God bless you always with many more blessed years to come. I love and miss you tremendously. Love, Mommy.



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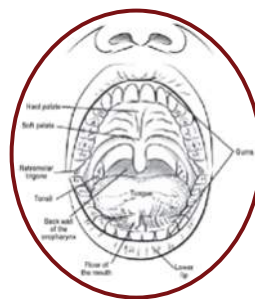


Paradise Dental Center

What you need to know

THE FACTS

In 2014, approximately 43,250 people will be diagnosed with oral cancer and oral pharyngeal (posterior/rear of the mouth) cancer in the U.S. Because a large number of these individuals will be diagnosed as late stage cancers (66%), only 57% of them will survive five years. Each year, oral cancer kills more people in the U.S. than other more widely known forms of cancer, including skin cancer (malignant melanoma), lymphatic cancer (lymphoma), thyroid, and cervical cancer. If oral cancer can be detected early (in stage one or two), the survival rate is 80% to 90%. But when found as a later stage (three or four), the chances of survival drop to 20% to 30%. Late discovery and diagnosis are major factors in high death rate. In the U.S., two thirds of the diagnosed cases will be late stage 3 & 4 cancers this year. Since this cancer in many cases lends itself to early visual and tactile detection, this situation is correctable without the introduction of new science. Additional risks factors for oral cancers include high alcohol consumption, the use of smokeless (chewing tobacco/spit) tobacco, as well as prolonged exposure to the sun (for lip cancers).



.... MORE FACTS



The good news is that a dentist or doctor can see or feel the precancerous tissue changes or any early cancer, finding it at the most curable stages.

The examination will only take 3 minutes that could save your life. One of the leading causes of oral cancer in the CNMI is chewing betelnut with tobacco and other additives. Now, the fastest growing segment of oral cancer patients are young, healthy, non-smoking individuals. This is why everyone over the age of 18 should be screened annually. The visual examination is simple, painless, and quick. Early detection saves lives.

For Prevention

There is a better chance for a cure if oral cancer is found early.

- ✓ **Have an oral exam once a year.**
Ask your dental or medical provider for an oral cancer exam during your visit.
- ✓ **Avoid tobacco products —**
Cigarettes, chew or snuff, pipes or cigars. 90% of patients with oral cancer use tobacco.
- ✓ **Limit alcohol consumption.**
80% of patients with oral cancer frequently consume alcohol.
- ✓ **Use a lip balm with a SPF of at least 15.**
30% of patients with oral cancer have outdoor occupations associated with prolonged sun exposure.
- ✓ **Eat a variety of fruits and vegetables.**
Eating at least five servings of fruits and vegetables every day may provide some protection against oral cancer.

Signs and Symptoms

One of the real dangers of oral cancer, is that in its early stages, it can go unnoticed. It can be painless, and little in the way of physical changes may be obvious. This makes it a very dangerous disease. Regular screening by a qualified medical or dental professional, combined with a person's awareness of the disease and detection in the earliest possible stages when a cure is most achievable - is why we urge everyone to take advantage of the **free oral cancer screening**.

Early Indicators

- Red and/or white discolorations of the soft tissue of the mouth.
- Any sore which does not heal within 14 days.
- Hoarseness which lasts for a prolonged period of time.

Advanced Indicators

- A sensation that something is stuck in your throat
- Numbness in oral region.
- Difficulty in moving the jaw or tongue.
- Difficulty swallowing
- Ear pain which occurs on one side only
- A sore under a denture which even after adjustment of dentures, still does not heal.
- A lump or thickening which develops in the mouth or on the neck.

RISK FACTORS

Tobacco Use. In all its forms, tobacco is a major contributor to the development of oral or mouth cancers. Not using tobacco is the single most important thing you can do to avoid oral cancers.

Excessive Consumption. More than 15 alcoholic beverages per week may put you at greater risk. If you drink, please do so in moderation.

The combined use of alcohol and tobacco. This significantly increases the risk of oral cancer more than either by itself.

Excessive unprotected exposure to sun. Unprotected exposure to sun will increase the likelihood of lip cancers. Use at least SPF30 sun block on your lip.

Low intake of fruits & vegetables. A diet that does not contain protective nutrients of these foods increases the risk of developing a variety of illnesses including oral cancer.

Use of betel nut and bedis. When chewed or smoked, these are causative agents of mouth cancers. Avoid their use.

YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO IGNORE ORAL CANCER!

P.O. Box 5665 CHRB Saipan, MP 96950 | Phone: 670-682-0050 Fax: 670-682-0050 | Email: cca@ccamarianas.org ccamarianas@gmail.com



Presents

Kenneth Q. Lujan
Branch Manager, SBA Guam

FREE

Saipan: "How to Obtain a SBA Loan"By: Ken Q. Lujan
April 13, 2016 (Wednesday)
10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Northern Marianas College, D1

"From starting up or expanding your business to recovering from disasters, SBA loan programs are available to help your business succeed. You can explore various types of loans that may be available at the upcoming training workshop."

Saipan: "How to Obtain a HUBZone Certification"By: Ken Q. Lujan
April 14, 2016 (Thursday)
10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Northern Marianas College, Room D1

"Looking for an edge in government contracting. The Historically Underutilized Business Zones (HUBZone) program helps small businesses in urban and rural communities gain preferential access to federal procurement opportunities. Learn more at the upcoming training workshop!"

Register by contacting the Department of Commerce at (670) 664-3018 or register online PISBDCN.ECENTERDIRECT.COM

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Obama administration supports Kilili position on Earned Income Tax Credit

The Obama administration told Congress this week that it wants the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands all included in the Earned Income Tax Credit program. This is a change in administration policy, which before supported extending federal help for low-income working families only in Puerto Rico.

The new Obama position is consistent with legislation introduced by Delegate Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan (Ind-MP) last year that provides federal funding for the tax credit to all the U.S. insular areas.

"This is very good news," Sablan said. "The Earned Income Tax Credit is paid to people who have low-wage jobs. So it boosts household income and puts more money into the local economy."

"And because you have to be working to get this tax refund, it also encourages people to find jobs, which should help our effort to hire more U.S. workers."

Sablan's bill, H.R. 4309, works the same way as the Child Tax Credit that is already available in the Northern Mar-

ianas. Taxpayers apply for the credit on their annual NMI income tax form. The U.S. Treasury then gives the money to the Commonwealth Finance Department to cover the cost. Finance distributes the credit by check in the Marianas.

The President proposed extending the EITC to Puerto Rico in his fiscal year 2017 budget this February, as a way to respond to the debt crisis there: "To reward work ... the budget proposes an EITC for Puerto Rico. The EITC is already available to Americans living in the 50 States and the District of Columbia, and providing the EITC in Puerto Rico would create incentives for work and increase participation in the formal economy."

But the Northern Marianas and the other three insular areas were left out.

Sablan and the other insular area delegates who cosponsored his Earned Income Tax Credit bill—Amata Radewagen (R-American Samoa), Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-Guam), and Stacy Plaskett (D-Virgin Islands)—have been actively lobbying the Obama administration to add their islands to any bill that

extends the EITC to Puerto Rico. Resident Commissioner Pedro Pierluisi (D-Puerto Rico) is also a cosponsor of Sablan's bill.

The Earned Income Tax Credit provision is not expected to be part of the Puerto Rico debt crisis bill now being drafted by the House Natural Resources Committee in preparation for a hearing and mark-up next week. But the new administration position adds weight to the effort to include the EITC—and improve how Medicaid covers the insular areas—in follow-up legislation in this Congress.

The administration's new position was part of testimony by the Interior Department at a Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee hearing this week. In that statement, Interior said: "The Department believes that the other territories should be considered for inclusion in the health and tax provisions that may be extended to Puerto Rico."

"This would equalize treatment among the territories and the states as well as take steps to prevent a crisis, based on unequal treatment, from developing in the other territories," Interior added. (PR)



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950

Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962

E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mpREQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS
FOR
CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICESBENJAMIN TAISACAN MANGLONA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
ARFF BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT
AIP No. 3-69-0003-23/XX

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested firms to perform construction management (CM) services for various improvements to the ARFF Station at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport, AIP No. 3-69-0003-23/XX, Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project is being funded by the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). This project is in accordance with CPA's Procurement Rules and Regulations and procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 40-50-202 Architect-Engineer Design and Construction Management Services.

The Scope of Work (SOW) includes overall construction management services for the duration of the project. Details are available at CPA's Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the arrival terminal. No fee is required for obtaining the proposal package.

Questions regarding this request for qualification (RFQ) statements must be submitted to Ms. Wendi L. Prater, Executive Assistant, in writing via hand delivery to the CPA Administration Office, via fax to (670) 664-3533 and/or emailed to wprater@cpa.gov.mp or cpa.engr@pticom.com by no later than Friday, April 22, 2016, 4:30 p.m., local time.

At a minimum, the statements of professional qualification will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. Overall CM experience in the Pacific area and especially in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands – 30 points;
2. CM experience related to airport fire stations funded in whole or in part by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA); – 30 points;
3. Level of proficiency in performing CM services promptly; and level of experience with the FAA regulations and requirements and AIP grants – 15 points;
4. The general reputation of the firm in terms of quality of CM work experience, firm's ability to perform the services and the firm's professional integrity and competence – 15 points; and
5. Resumes of key personnel including current licenses and registrations of principal, if applicable – 10 points.

Interested Consultants shall submit one (1) original, four (4) copies and one (1) electronic version in .pdf on a compact disc of their statements of professional qualifications no later than **4:30 p.m., FRIDAY, MAY 6, 2016**. Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330.

Discussions may be conducted with at least three (3) of the firms regarding the agreement requirements and technical approach and selection made there from, in order of preference, of no less than three (3) firms determined to be the most highly qualified to perform the services required.

An agreement shall be negotiated with the highest qualified construction management firm or company at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the government. If a fair and reasonable price cannot be negotiated with the highest ranking qualified firm, then additional firms may be selected in order of competence and qualifications and negotiations continued until a fair and reasonable price is agreed upon.

All responses to this RFQ shall take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the consultant awarded an agreement for this project, including excise tax.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

Send information to:

Ms. MaryAnn Q. Lizama
Executive Director
Commonwealth Ports Authority
P.O. Box 501055
Saipan, MP 96950-1055

For the Commonwealth Ports Authority

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOIFOI
Board Chairman/Contracting Officer

Date: April 7, 2016



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950

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E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED BIDS for reconditioning of the perimeter fence and widening of Charlie Dock service gate at the Port of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Project No. CPA-SS-002-15 will be received at the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP, 96950.

All Bids shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: Port of Saipan Reconditioning of the Perimeter Fence/Widening of Charlie Service Gate, Project No. CPA-SS-002-15 and must be submitted no later than **2:00 p.m. on FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 2016** to the Office of the Executive Director at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, at which time and place the sealed Bids will be publicly opened and read. Bidders are requested to submit one original and two copies of its bid proposal.

The Project, in general, consists of, but is not limited to Construction of the **PERIMETER FENCE RECONDITIONING/WIDENING OF CHARLIE SERVICE GATE PROJECT**. The Work involves removing the entire existing chain-link fabric and all accessories and replacing them with new chain-link fabric and accessories. It also includes the removal of the existing Charlie gate and replacing it with a new wider sliding gate all in accordance with the plans and specifications, rules and regulations of all governing agencies. The project is located at the Saipan Seaport, Saipan, Northern Marianas Islands.

A CD-Rom containing the Bid Proposal and Contract Documents, including Drawings and Specifications, may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, upon payment of **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$150.00)** for each set of documents in electronic form, including the Bid Schedule. The payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier's check or U.S. Postal money order made payable to the "Commonwealth Ports Authority".

The Project is being financed by funds from Port Security Grants from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The Contract award, if it is made, will be made within sixty (60) calendar days of the receipt of Bid Proposals. CPA reserves the right to hold such Bids in effect for ninety (90) calendar days from the date of Bid opening.

The Contract period for construction of the Project in its entirety shall be **one hundred fifty (150) calendar days**. Liquidated damages in the amount of **three hundred fifty dollars (\$350.00)** shall be assessed the Contractor for each calendar day completion of the Project is delayed beyond the Contract completion date without approved excuse.

The apparent low bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be "responsive or responsible", their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the CPA Seaport Conference Room, George A. Fleming Office Building, Port of Saipan, at **10:00 a.m., Monday, MARCH 28, 2016**, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, at least seven (7) days prior to the pre-bid conference.

Each proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders are required to use the bid schedule form on the CD-Rom. The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the procurement contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by U.S. Treasury listed or CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than **TEN PERCENT (10%)** of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 70-25 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract and include associated costs in the bid proposal. The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All bidders shall comply with all Federal requirements under this procurement, including but not limited to Buy American Preference, Foreign Trade Restriction, Davis Bacon, Veteran's Preference, Affirmative Action and Government-wide Debarment and Suspension and Government-wide Requirements for Drug-free Workplace. Further details on all Federal requirements are provided in the specifications.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ THOMAS P. VILLAGOMEZ
Acting Chairman of the Board/Contracting Officer

Date: March 17, 2016



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

- **MVA-RFP-16-2334 CHINA**
- **MVA-RFP-16-2335 KOREA/TAIWAN & RUSSIA**
- **MVA-RFP-16-2336 JAPAN**

For: Representation, Promotion and Public Relations Services for the ■ China Market, and/or the ■ Korea/Taiwan & Russia Market and/or the ■ Japan Market. Proposers may choose to respond to one, two or all three proposal territories.

Opening Date: February 17, 2016 Time: 8:00 a.m.
Closing Date: April 15, 2016 Time: 3:00 p.m.

Submit sealed proposals to: The Marianas Visitors Authority
P.O. Box 500861
Saipan, MP 96950
USA

The Marianas Visitors Authority ("MVA") seeks to hire a contractor or contractors to provide marketing, internet, and public relations services to the MVA and assist the MVA with its mandate to promote tourism to the Northern Mariana Islands from the ■ Japanese market, the ■ Chinese market and the ■ Korea/Taiwan & Russia markets. These 3 contracts will each be for an initial two-year period, commencing on October 1, 2016, with an option to renew for one (1) additional two (2) year period and one (1) additional one (1) year period (up to 5 total years).

Interested parties may pick up the scope of work at the Marianas Visitors Authority office between 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, except holidays or by emailing the **MVA** at jtorres@mymarianas.com or by fax to 1-670-664-3237. RFP is available at www.mymarianas.com.

Gratuities, kickbacks, and contingent fees are prohibited by the laws of the Northern Mariana Islands. NMIAC §§ 90-20-120, 90-20-125.

/s/ Marian Aldan-Pierce
Chairperson
MVA Board of Directors

/s/ PERRY P. TENORIO
Managing Director



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-16-006

SR-1 LIFT STATION REHABILITATION PROJECT (S-11-015)

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the rehabilitation and upgrade of SR-1 Sewer Lift Station in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The project consists, in general of the rehabilitation and upgrade of SR-1 Sewer Lift Station.

The work shall be done not to disrupt the daily operation of the sewer discharge. The work includes rehabilitation of the wet well, remove existing pumps and appurtenances and install new pumps, guide rails, control panel, valves, replacement of pipes and fittings, temporary wastewater bypass system, installation of new fence and gate, and other related work.

This project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **270 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **April 14, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "**CUC-IFB-16-006, SR-1 Lift Station Rehabilitation Project**", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 03, 2016**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). **Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.**

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on April 18, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email - manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Birhen Martinez, CUC Water/Wastewater Senior Engineer - via email birhen.martinez@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

/s/ GARY CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

/s/ MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-16-007

LEASE OF OFFICE SPACE (CUC ROTA)

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from individuals or firms for the lease of office space for CUC Administration and Operation in Rota, CNMI.

The proposed office space must conform to American Disabilities Act (ADA), OSHA and CNMI Zoning regulation.

The RFP package may be obtained at the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section (Saipan, Tinian or Rota), by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$20.00 for one RFP package set. The RFP package will be provided in a CD or emailed to the registered Proponents email ID. Prospective Proposers for this RFP must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division to be considered.

A pre-proposal conference is scheduled for 2:00 PM (ChST) on April 15, 2016 at the CUC Rota Administration Office in Sinapalo Village, Rota.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "**CUC RFP -16-007, Lease of Office Space (CUC Rota)**" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on May 10, 2016.**

Proponents are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Proponent due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Proponent's preparation of a proposal under the contract.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible Proponents for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of, and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Proponents shall be accorded fair and equal treatment. There shall be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing proposers. All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes which will become the obligation of the Proponent awarded a contract.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This request and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The Proponent awarded a contract shall comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on April 18, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org.

/s/ GARY CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

/s/ MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-16-010

TINIAN WATER SYSTEM PRESSURE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the installation of pressure reducing stations and installation of 10-in PVC Waterline Project in Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This work consists of the installation of approximately 1400 linear feet of 10-inch PVC water line complete with necessary valves and fittings, the relocation and replacement of two existing pressure reducing valves (PRV's), the installation of a new PRV, and several reconfigurations of the existing water system.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **240 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

This project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on **April 21, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) Original and Five (5) Hard Copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "**CUC-IFB-16-010, Tinian Water System Pressure Improvements Project**" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 12, 2016**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). **Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.**

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on April 22, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Marcela Tenorio, CUC P&S, Administrative Support Assistant - marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

/s/ GARY CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

/s/ MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

RFP16 – RED003

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: May 20, 2016

“LEASE AND DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC LAND IN LOWER BASE, SAIPAN”

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Lands (DPL), are soliciting sealed proposals from interested and qualified companies or individuals for the purpose of commercial leasing and developing the following public lands:

- Lot 182 E 01, containing an area of approximately 4,545 square meters, more or less, in Lower Base, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, as is; and

The RFP instruction and information package (RFP Packet) is available at the Department of Public Lands office, located on the 2nd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan, during the hours of 7:30am to 4:30pm, Monday through Friday, except holidays. Interested proposers from overseas may request an RFP Packet by mail or email. The request must reference “RFP16-RED003 - LEASE & DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC LAND IN LOWER BASE, SAIPAN”.

Questions from proposing firms regarding the contents of the RFP packet must be received, **no later than 4:30 pm on Friday, April 22, 2016 ChST** and must be submitted in writing via mail, email or facsimile to Ms. Marianne Concepcion-Teregeyo, Secretary, Department of Public Lands at the following address:

Department of Public Lands
P.O. Box 500380
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone number: (670) 234-3751/52/53
Facsimile number: (670) 234-3755
Email: mariannet@dpl.gov.mp

Response to questions will be summarized and shared with all proposers in a “Question and Answer” format.

The DPL reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfection in any proposal, if, in its opinion to do so would be in the best interest of public land beneficiaries. All proposals shall become the sole property of the DPL.

/s/ MARIANNE CONCEPCION-TEREGEYO
Secretary, Department of Public Lands



Tiglao chosen for youth EnviroLeader’s Forum



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Mary Grace Tiglao of Marianas High School has been selected as one of the first international participants of the long-running Sir Peter Blake Youth EnviroLeader’s Forum in New Zealand from April 16 to 22, 2016.

Marianas High School senior Mary Grace Tiglao has been selected as one of the first international participants of the long-running Sir Peter Blake Youth EnviroLeader’s Forum in New Zealand from April 16 to 22, 2016.

The forum will take place in Nelson on the South Island, where Tiglao will join 54 other young leaders from around New Zealand and have the opportunity to learn from a number of national science and conservation experts about the major environmental issues facing New Zealand.

“I am very happy and honored to be selected as the first participant from the CNMI,” said Tiglao. “I would like to thank all the organizations and individuals that made this possible, especially Angelo Vilagomez of the Pew Foundation and Vicky Benavente. I am excited to visit New Zealand to represent the CNMI, and I look forward to attending and learning from the forum.”

The Sir Peter Blake Trusts is partnering with The Island Voices to bring international young leaders from across the Pacific to attend YELF for the first time this year. Along with the Northern Marianas, travel for young leaders from Australia, Palau, and New Caledonia are being jointly funded by The Pew Charitable Trusts and the New Zealand Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Trade.

“The Trust is excited to be branching out to our Pacific neighbors connecting young environmental leaders of the future,” said Sir Peter Blake Trust CEO Shelley Campbell. “Sir Peter used to say, ‘If we can get young people out experiencing the environment they will learn to love it and if they love it they will want to take care of it.’”

Benavente, chairwoman and Marianas Tourism Education Council, nominated Tiglao to participate in the upcoming forum.

“I first met Mary Grace when she was a high school sophomore, and she competed

in the MTEC Essay Contest,” said Benavente. “Since then, Mary Grace has taken on a leadership role in her school, where she can influence her peers on the importance of protecting our environment and inspiring future leaders of the CNMI for a better tomorrow.”

Tiglao is the Battalion Commander of the JROTC Dolphin Battalion and an officer of the National Honor Society. She previously attended Saipan Community School and Mt. Carmel School. Last year, she attended the Junior Statesmen of America at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., with a full scholarship award from the U.S. Department of Interior. She has won several essay contests on island, including the MTEC essay contest in 2013. She also plays the ukulele and piano.

The Island Voices are artists, educators, fishermen, and leaders dedicated to linking traditional values into modern decision making and advocates for clean and healthy oceans and islands. They are advisors to The Pew Charitable Trusts Global Ocean Legacy Campaign.

Sir Peter Blake was one of the world’s best sailors who wanted to raise people’s awareness about need to care for our oceans and marine environments. The Sir Peter Blake Trust exists to continue his legacy to inspire and mobilize the next generation of leaders, adventurers, and environmentalists.

MTEC was formed in 2002 by the Marianas Visitors Authority to heighten the community’s awareness of the importance of tourism to the well-being of the people of the CNMI. MTEC’s primary focus is to foster community understanding and support of the CNMI’s visitor industry and to educate the general public, especially school students, about the value, social benefits, and economic contributions made to the community by the visitor industry. (PR)



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

RFP16 – RED002

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: May 20, 2016

“LEASE AND DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC PROPERTY IN TANAPAG, SAIPAN”

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Lands (DPL), are soliciting sealed proposals from interested and qualified companies or individuals for the purpose of leasing and commercial development of the following public land:

- Lot No. 002 B 24, containing an area approximately 1,500 square meters, more or less, in Tanapag, Saipan, Northern Marianas Islands, as is.

The RFP instruction and information package (RFP Packet) is available at the Department of Public Lands office, located on the 2nd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan, during the hours of 7:30am to 4:30pm, Monday through Friday, except holidays. Interested proposers from overseas may request an RFP Packet by mail or email. The request must reference “RFP16-RED002 – LEASE & DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC LAND IN TANAPAG, SAIPAN”.

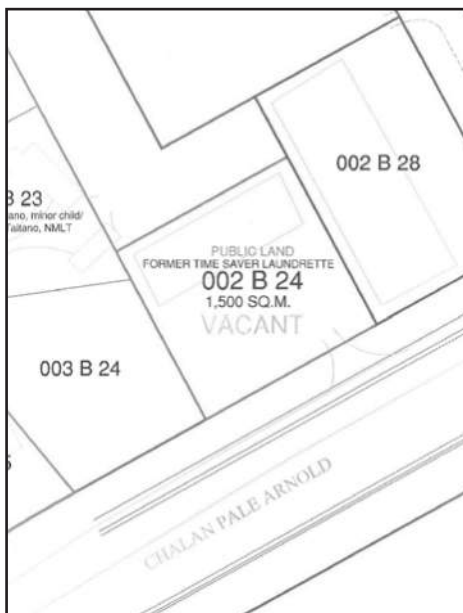
Questions from proposing firms regarding the contents of the RFP packet must be received, **no later than 4:30 pm on April 22, 2016 ChST** and must be submitted in writing via mail, email or facsimile to Ms. Marianne Concepcion-Teregeyo, Secretary, Department of Public Lands at the following address:

Department of Public Lands
P.O. Box 500380
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone number: (670) 234-3751/52/53
Facsimile number: (670) 234-3755
Email: mariannet@dpl.gov.mp

Response to questions will be summarized and shared with all proposers in a “Question and Answer” format.

The DPL reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfection in any proposal, if, in its opinion to do so would be in the best interest of public land beneficiaries. All proposals shall become the sole property of the DPL.

/s/ MARIANNE CONCEPCION-TEREGEYO
Secretary, Department of Public Lands



AT UOG FILM FESTIVAL

Hollywood stylist, Guam documentary take center stage

HAGATÑA, Guam—The 2016 University of Guam Film Festival of the Pacific Spring Local Showcase has announced the official lineup for its second spring event set to take place April 29 and 30, 2016 from 10am to 10pm Friday and Saturday at the UOG Lecture Hall and the UOG Fine Arts Theatre.

The success of the festival's inaugural event last year has extended the spring event to two days. A total of 14 world premieres from the Mariana Islands will be exhibited.

Admission to each screening will be \$5. Only cash payments will be accepted at the door.

Scheduled to appear is Hollywood special effects makeup artist and hair stylist, Analyn Cruz.

Cruz, originally from Guam, is scheduled to con-

duct a movie makeup workshop at the 2016 UOGFF. Cruz has made her mark on the Hollywood scene working at Paramount Studios and on projects such as The Grammys and The Oscars. She has worked for celebrities such as Matthew Gray Gubler (*Criminal Minds*, CBS), Kat Dennings (*2 Broke Girls*, CBS), James Roday and Dule Hill (*Psych*, USA), Matthew Fox, Kurt Russell, and David Arquette (*Bone Tomahawk*, RLJ Entertainment), the Wayans Brothers, and more.

The 2016 UOGFF will unveil the world premiere of the highly anticipated Guam documentary, "American Soil, Chamorro Soul." The film will make its debut as the festival's centerpiece film.

The documentary, produced and directed by Guam resident and travel blogger

Jessica Peterson, has been in production since March 2015 and features interviews with Chamorro cultural practitioners on Guam. The film trailer has already been viewed more than 300,000 times after going viral on Facebook and the film's completion was made possible by a successful crowd-funding campaign, reaching the goal of \$8,000 from donations worldwide.

The film's crew also includes travel filmmaker Brandon Li (MTV, National Geographic) a variety of talented local filmmakers, and even two Chamorro industry pros working in Hollywood.

Docomo Pacific is the associate producer. For the full press kit, visit <http://chamorrofilm.com/presskit/>

Additional festival highlights include an unprecedented cash prize award for the top three films totaling

\$2,000.

The top three films and two audience choice winners will go on to vie for the "Best Made in the Mari-

anas" honors at the Guam International Film Festival (GIFF) signature fall event in September 2016.

For complete showtimes

and film schedules, visit guamfilmfestival.org, on Instagram at @guamfilmfestival and [fb.com/guamfilmfestival](https://www.facebook.com/guamfilmfestival). (PR)

Slew of announcements from KagHS

Kagman High School announced that report cards will be sent home with students today, April 8, 2016.

Parents can make appointments with teachers and counselors if they would like to discuss final grades. Appointments can be made through the main office at 664-3780.

The school also announced that its KHS DEF POETRY JAM is set for April 14 from

5pm to 8pm at the Kagman High Cafeteria. It is open to the public. Come and see the annual event where we celebrate the Ayuyu spirit with poetry, art, and music. Alumni and all KHS stakeholders are welcome. Come back to KHS and check out the new generation of poets.

KHS also is sad to announce that all KHS students must pay their cafeteria credits or they will experience a dis-

ruption in service.

Starting Monday, the vendor will not allow students who exceed \$10 credit to credit more unless they pay half of their credits. Students who have balances must pay every Friday. If families are eligible for free meals, they must re-apply every year. If you do not re-apply, your child is expected to pay. This is the federal regulation to receive free meal. (PR)

World Health Day 2016: Let's beat diabetes and obesity

The Pacific Islands region has among the highest rates of diabetes and obesity in the world. We are the epicenter. The extent of these and other non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in our region is viewed as a human, social and economic crisis.

On April 7, we join the world in marking World Health Day. This year, diabetes is the theme for the first time: "Beat Diabetes: Scale up prevention, strengthen care and enhance surveillance."

This World Health Day aims to increase awareness of the rise in diabetes and its staggering burden and consequences globally; and to trigger a set of specific, effective and affordable actions to tackle this disease. These include steps to prevent diabetes, improve diagnosis, and to treat and care for people with diabetes.

Diabetes is a chronic disease characterized by elevated levels of blood sugar which, over time, may lead to serious damage to the heart, blood vessels, eyes, kidneys and nerves, causing serious and potentially deadly complications such as heart attacks, stroke, blindness, kidney failure, nerve damage and impotence, as well as in-

fections and foot ulcers that can lead to amputations.

In the Pacific, the likelihood of you having a family member or acquaintance with diabetes is extremely high. Together we can change this, because the most common form of diabetes in our region is type 2, which is preventable.

Simple lifestyle measures can reduce the risk of diabetes, such as maintaining your body weight, engaging in regular physical activity, and eating a healthy diet. Diabetes can also be controlled and managed to prevent complications. Improved access to diagnosis, self-management education, affordable treatment and compliance to medication, as well as practicing healthy lifestyles are vital components of the response.

As the region's principal scientific and technical organization, the Pacific Community (SPC) plays an active role in supporting our member countries and territories to scale up prevention actions through the implementation of the Pacific NCDs Roadmap. Endorsed by Pacific leaders in 2014, the roadmap report contains a menu of multi-sectoral interventions suited to the Pacific.

SPC is actively engaged at a high-level of political and sectoral leadership to positively influence policy dialogue and to build awareness of the role of different sectors in responding to the NCDs crisis.

Efforts to prevent and treat diabetes will be important to achieve the global Sustainable Development Goal target of reducing premature mortality from NCDs by one third by 2030. Many sectors of society in the Pacific have a role to play in fighting diabetes, including governments, health professionals, manufacturers, civil society, churches, the media and individuals themselves—and that means you.

We would like to encourage everyone in the Pacific to support World Health Day by raising awareness of diabetes, its debilitating consequences and steps to prevent it.

SPC is committed to working together with our member countries and territories, and our partners, to invest expertise and mobilize a sustainable whole-of-SPC, whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach in turning the tide on the NCDs epidemic, especially for diabetes in the Pacific. (PR)

Survivors, caregivers support meeting April 14

All people facing cancer, their family members, and caregivers are invited to the next Commonwealth Cancer Association monthly sup-

port meeting scheduled for April 14, 5:30pm at Hyatt Regency Saipan's Chamolinian Room. To RSVP or for more information, please

call the Commonwealth Cancer Association at 682-0050 or email at ccamarianas@gmail.com or cca@ccamarianas.org. (PR)

Message of Appreciation

We, the family of the Late

†WILLARD OTONG NGOTEL

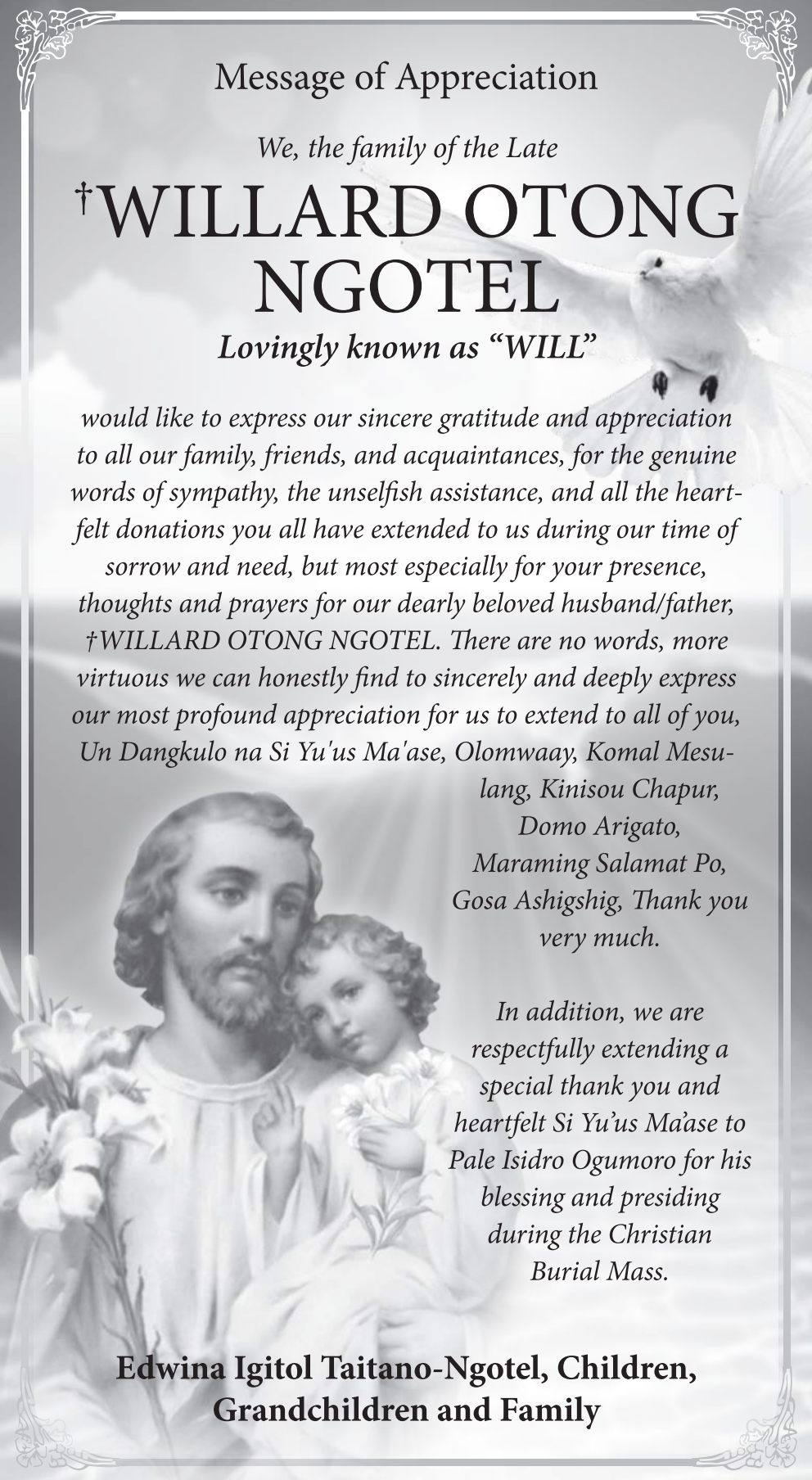
Lovingly known as "WILL"

would like to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to all our family, friends, and acquaintances, for the genuine words of sympathy, the unselfish assistance, and all the heartfelt donations you all have extended to us during our time of sorrow and need, but most especially for your presence, thoughts and prayers for our dearly beloved husband/father, †WILLARD OTONG NGOTEL. There are no words, more virtuous we can honestly find to sincerely and deeply express our most profound appreciation for us to extend to all of you,

Un Dangkulo na Si Yu'us Ma'ase, Olomwaay, Komal Mesulang, Kinisou Chapur, Domo Arigato, Maraming Salamat Po, Gosa Ashigshig, Thank you very much.

In addition, we are respectfully extending a special thank you and heartfelt Si Yu'us Ma'ase to Pale Isidro Ogumoro for his blessing and presiding during the Christian Burial Mass.

Edwina Igitol Taitano-Ngotel, Children, Grandchildren and Family



UOG can help you grow a community garden

Extension agents at the University of Guam College of Natural and Applied Sciences (CNAS) work with the public to assist with finding information about healthy food choices, how to grow plants and vegetables, how to trap coconut rhinoceros beetles, and more. Extension Associate Phoebe Wall has been helping various individuals and groups around the island start and maintain community gardens since 2013. In collaboration with the Non-communicable Disease Consortium, Wall has been instrumental in helping people plan and actualize community gardens to increase their access to fresh fruits and vegetables in order to decrease the incidence of obesity, diabetes, chronic heart disease, cancer, and stroke.

Yigo resident Jeanette Reilly contacted Wall regarding some issues she was experiencing with her community garden project. As a diabetic, Reilly wanted to make sure she was getting plenty of good-quality vegetables in her diet, so she began a com-



munity garden with her four sisters who call themselves the "Golden Girls" and named their garden The Golden Girls Garden. "As a retired teacher I have time to work in the garden every day. We started planting in the bare ground, but we had problems with erosion. I contacted Phoebe and she suggested we try a different method and we are very happy with the results," said Reilly.

Because of the slight slope of the land where Reilly was planting, Wall suggested incorporating sheet mulching, enhancing the soil using compost mixed with topsoil, shred-

ded paper, chicken manure, coffee grounds, etc. "It is like making lasagna, putting down a layer of compost then a layer of cardboard or shredded paper, then soil," explained Wall. She also encouraged Reilly to use raised beds instead of planting on bare ground. The Office of Minority Health Resource Center (OMHRC) supplied funding for cinder blocks and many other necessities. These changes have increased the number of vegetables the families harvest and decreased the amount of weeding needed.

Salvation Army's Lighthouse Recovery Center con-

modate wheelchair gardeners and those using walkers. Wall already has a commitment from military personnel to volunteer their time in setting up the garden. She also has two retirees, Wayne Brown and Sebastian Pelivanian, who have been volunteering with several other gardens.

Community gardens are not tacted Wall to help the center start a garden for the community of individuals there. She assisted them in getting tools, seedlings, seeds and other supplies with funding from the OMHRC. Wall worked with them regularly giving demonstrations on gardening techniques from planting seeds to harvesting. They now have eggplant, hot peppers, green onions, and okra in the raised gardens as well as calamansi and other fruit trees they are tending. "They eat what they grow and they are very excited to have more fresh vegetables available for meals," said Wall.

Her next garden project is for Guma Trankilidat, the Guam Housing and Urban Renewal Authority's Guam Elderly Project. This will involve different types of gardening methods to suit their needs, as some of the residents have disabilities. She will be looking at ways to accom-

only a great way to grow fresh fruit and vegetables, they also foster intergenerational relationships, provide volunteer opportunities, and give the satisfaction that comes with nurturing plants and connecting with nature. For more information about extension and outreach activities, please visit <http://cnas-re.uog.edu/>. (PR)

Back to Sumay Day to be held on Naval Base Guam

SANTA RITA, Guam—U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) Commanding Officer Capt. Andy Anderson is inviting former residents of Sumay village and their descendants to the seventh annual Back to Sumay Day event on NBG April 9.

The annual event, coordinated with the Santa Rita Mayor's Office, began in 2010 by then-base Commanding Officer Capt. Scott Galbreath with the goal of inviting former residents of the pre-World War II village and their descendants back to the site.

A Mass, presided by

Archbishop Anthony Apuron, will be held at Clipper Landing Park on Naval Base Guam. Following the Mass, there will be a fiesta, cultural dancing entertainment and a historical display of photos dating back to pre-World War II Sumay. Guampedia will also host a historical tour of the base.

Sumay village was once known as the "Pearl of the Island" before the war. Evolving from a small fishing village to the agricultural and commercial hub for ships in the mid-1800s, it became an economically rich village by the 1930s. (PR)

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: <http://www.nmhc.gov.net>

CANCELLATION OF INVITATION FOR BID

(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)

NMHC IFB 2016-003

"RENOVATION OF SAN ROQUE FIRE STATION, SAIPAN"

The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors through its Chairman of the Board is hereby informing its bidders that the above-mentioned Invitation for Bid (IFB) has been canceled.

For more information, contact Ms. Jocelyn C. Seman, Procurement Officer, or Mr. Jacob J. Muna, Planner/Environmental Officer at (670) 234-6866/7689 during regular business hours, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/ Edward C. Sablan
Board Chairman & Contracting Officer

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Division of Procurement & Supply

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
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CANCELLATION OF INVITATION FOR BID

(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)

NMHC IFB 2016-006

"REHABILITATION OF KAGMAN COMMUNITY PARK"

The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors through its Chairman of the Board is hereby informing its bidders that the above-mentioned Invitation for Bid (IFB) has been canceled.

For more information, contact Ms. Jocelyn C. Seman, Procurement Officer, or Mr. Jacob J. Muna, Planner/Environmental Officer at (670) 234-6866/7689 during regular business hours, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/ Edward C. Sablan
Board Chairman & Contracting Officer

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Division of Procurement & Supply

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CANCELLATION OF INVITATION FOR BID

(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)

NMHC IFB 2016-007

"PURCHASE OF WILD LAND FIRE TRUCK FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF FIRE & EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (DFEMS) - TINIAN"

The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors through its Chairman of the Board is hereby informing its bidders that the above-mentioned Invitation for Bid (IFB) has been canceled.

For more information, contact Ms. Jocelyn C. Seman, Procurement Officer, or Mr. Jacob J. Muna, Planner/Environmental Officer at (670) 234-6866/7689 during regular business hours, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/ Edward C. Sablan
Board Chairman & Contracting Officer

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Division of Procurement & Supply

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Proposed Amendment to the Official Saipan Zoning Map (Rezone)
For Saipan Adventure Tours

The Commonwealth Zoning Board is seeking your comments on the following proposed amendment (rezone) to the Official Saipan Zoning Map. Saipan Adventure Tours is requesting to rezone Lot 10 G 18 in Kagman from "Village Residential" to "Public Resource" zoning district to operate a skydiving landing area with community related activities such as baseball or soccer. This lot is located at the back of the Kagman Community Center, along Kagman Road.

A public hearing will be held on:

Date: May 12, 2016
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Zoning Board Conference Room, 2nd flr. Joeten Dandan Bldg.

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, May 11, 2016. Please send written comments via e-mail to Therese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
Tel. (670) 234-6866/234-9447 / 234-7670 • Fax: 234-9021
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp

PUBLIC NOTICE

Annual Community Assessment Report for Program Year 2014

This notice is to inform the general public that the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) has received its Annual Community Assessment Report for Program Year 2014 from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The review period is for thirty (30) days ending on April 11, 2016.

The report contains information regarding the CNMI's performance in addressing and fulfilling the Community Planning and Development (CPD) grant requirements.

The report is available for viewing at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan; NMHC Field Office in San Jose, Tinian; NMHC Field Office in Songsong Village, Rota. You may also view the report at our website at www.nmhc.gov.net.

If you may have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact our office at (670)234-6866/9447 or email our office at nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp.

NMHC will make necessary arrangements for persons with disabilities. If you should require any special accommodations please contact our office.

/s/ Jesse S. Palacios
Corporate Director

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-7859
Facsimile: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF GUAM,)
Plaintiff,) Small Claims
vs.) No.: 14-0460
JULITA W. TUTIY,)
Defendant.) AMENDED
SUMMONS

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT:
JULITA W. TUTIY

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED AND NOTIFIED to file any answer you wish to make to the AMENDED COMPLAINT, a copy of which can be obtained at the Law Offices of Robert Tenorio Torres in Chalan Kiya, within twenty (20) days after service of this AMENDED SUMMONS upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to Robert Tenorio Torres, Attorney at Law, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, or as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Court of the above-entitled Court for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Office of the Clerk of Court, CNMI Superior Court, 1st Floor, Guma' Hustisia, Iimwal Aweewe, House of Justice, P.O. Box 500307, Saipan, MP 96950-0307. It may be prepared and signed for you by your attorney and sent to the Clerk of Court by messenger or by mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this AMENDED SUMMONS, judgment by default pursuant to the court rules of the above-entitled Court may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Amended Complaint.

SO ORDERED on this 8th day of March, 2016.

/s/ Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk

Leah Sanchez Mendiola
P.O. Box 10000 PMB 197
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone NO.: 233-2020

PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter of the) FCD CN
Petition for the) CIVIL
Change of) ACTION
Name of:) NO. 16-0115
Leah Sanchez)
Mendiola) NOTICE OF
Petitioner) HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on May 5, 2016, at 10:30 a.m. in Courtroom 205A before Honorable Judge Kenneth L. Govendo.

Deated this 28th day of March, 2016.

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

Mount Carmel School teachers recently resumed their professional development book club with Carol Dweck's "Mindset," which examines the difference between fixed and growth mindsets in student learning. Teachers have been utilizing their weekly in-service sessions to discuss the book's insights with each other, and to explore ways that the book's lessons can help them in and out of the classroom.

The book club's first book was "Switch" by Chip and Dan Heath. This year's book, "Mindset" features the work Stanford University psychologist Carol Dweck, who has spent decades researching how people learn and grow. Drawing from fields as diverse as education, business, and sports, Dweck argues that the "growth mindset is based on the belief that your basic qualities are things you can cultivate through your efforts."

School principal Frances Taimanao has appreciated lessons learned from "Mindset" in the book club. "For me, it always brings me back to my early childhood teachers and their traditional teaching, and then all the new teaching techniques I learned in college." Regarding the school's teachers, Taimanao hopes that they will learn how to grow themselves. "Learning never stops. It can be hard to get out of our comfort zones, but we need to try and we need to change." She added, "As teachers, we need to look at how we can best meet the needs of our stu-

dents. This book will help."

School president Galvin Deleon Guerrero echoed Taimanao's sentiments. "The best way to help our students to become life-long learners is to be life-long learners ourselves and lead by example." He added, "By reading one book together and meeting each week to share our thoughts on the book with each other, we are growing and thriving as a learning community."

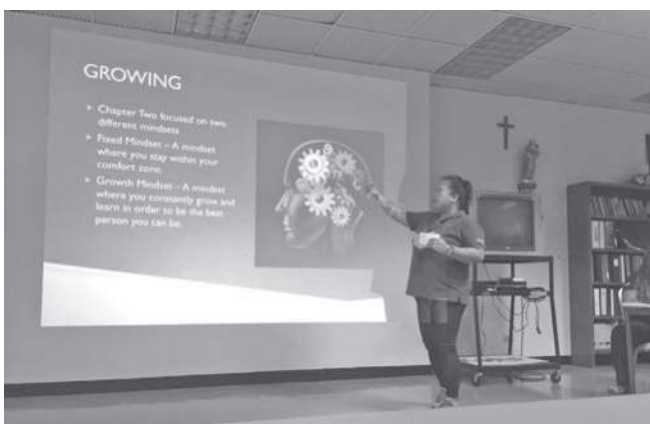
Many schools across the nation have started their own book clubs to enhance teacher professional development. According to the ASCD (formerly the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development), "Effective professional development in literacy must include a sustained, personal examination of our interaction with reading." ASCD adds, "Interweaving pleasure and practicality makes a teachers' book club a powerful option for school districts looking for a fresh approach to professional development. With book clubs, educators get together and enjoy literature and the social nature of a book club while they probe literacy from different angles. We read and discuss literature, analyze our personal preferences for reading, reflect on classroom practices, and modify classroom practices on the basis of what we have learned." (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

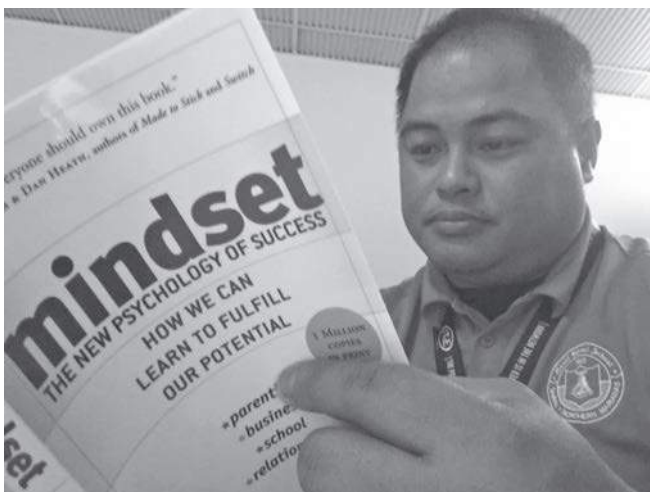
Junior high and high school English teacher Candida Bahillo listens on as her peers discuss Carol Dweck's "Mindset."

MCS teachers resume book club



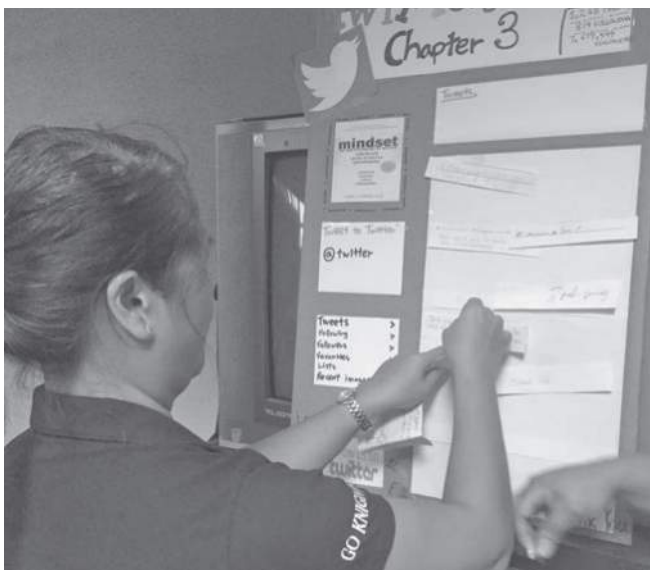
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Fifth grade teacher Ariadne Snodgrass conducts a "teach-back" on Carol Dweck's "Mindset."



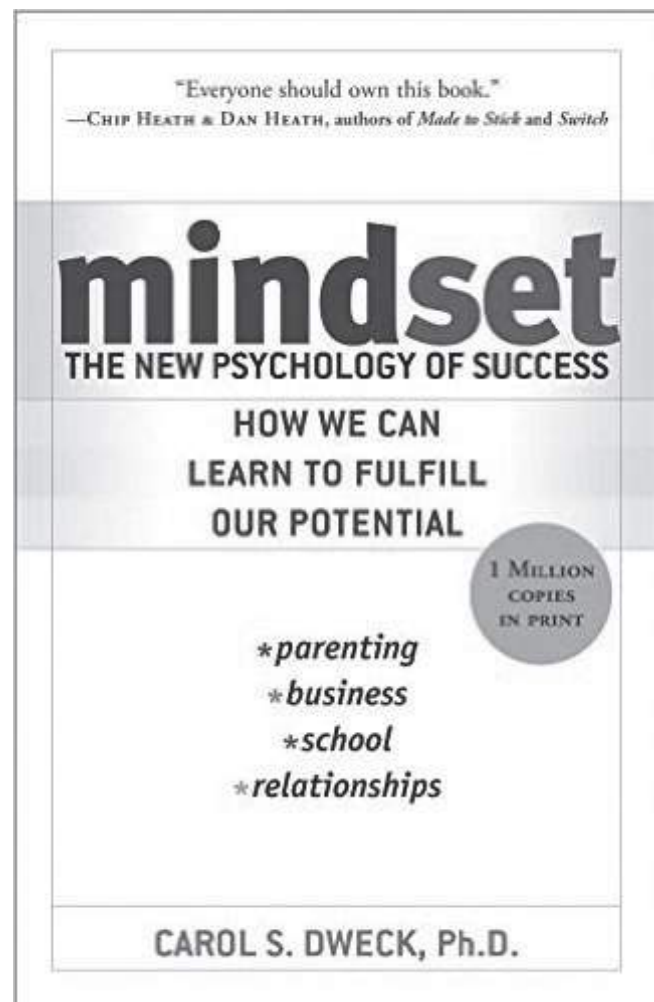
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Physical Education teacher Francis San Nicolas reads Carol Dweck's "Mindset."



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Fifth grade teacher Marilyn Divino assembles a Twitter mock-up board about Carol Dweck's "Mindset."



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The cover of Carol Dweck's groundbreaking book "Mindset."



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Third grade teacher Shirley Duenas shares her insights from Carol Dweck's "Mindset."

Smoker who's tried everything is desperate to become a quitter

DEAR ABBY: I need some advice about quitting smoking. I am the father of an only child and husband to a wonderful wife. But for some reason, I have not been able to find the motivation to quit. I know smoking is bad for my health, and I don't want to endanger my child's health any longer.

I have tried the gum, the patch and even prescription meds. My willpower just isn't strong and I can't quit, no matter what I try. I need the right inspiration. Can you help me stop this nasty habit?

SICK OF IT IN MISSOURI

DEAR SICK OF IT: I'll try. As a former smoker, I'll share what worked for me. Cold turkey. First, clean house. Get rid of all the cigarettes you have stashed at home, in your car and at your workplace. Yes, even the pack you "forgot" in your jacket pocket.

Realize that your body is saturated with nicotine and it must be flushed out. Drinking LOTS of water for the first month will help you accomplish that.

Then, choose one day when you will go entirely smoke-free. Understand going in that you will crave your "fix." When that craving hits, if you must put something in your

mouth, chew (non-nicotine) gum, go brush your teeth or eat a crunchy vegetable (carrot sticks, celery). If you can manage to do this for just ONE DAY, you can do it for another one. And then another, etc.

Accept that you are an addict and that your "sobriety" is something you will have to cling to with determination. Eventually the impulse to grab a cigarette will fade, but every now and then you may have an urge to smoke that comes out of left field. When that happens, get up and walk out of the room. By the time you return, the urge will have subsided. Mine did.

And one more thing—if you fall off the wagon (and you may), think about watching your child graduate from high school or college, getting married and playing with your grandchildren. Your chances of doing those things will be better if you're not a smoker. Then get back on that wagon and start over again.

That's how I quit, and the third time I did it, it worked. (Clearly, I do not have willpower of cast iron.) If I can do it, believe me, so can you. Please write again in six months and let me know you're tobacco-free, too. I'm rooting for you.

DEAR ABBY: Can you really learn to love someone you

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

don't find physically attractive?

TWITTER FAN OF ABBY

DEAR TWITTER FAN: You may learn to love the person for his or her finer qualities, but I don't think you can "learn" to find someone physically attractive if the chemistry simply isn't there.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable – and most frequently requested – poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Chapeau

4 Pitch

7 Gray matter

12 Parisian pal

13 "Entourage" role

14 Sonata movement

15 Eve, originally

16 Ruthless, as a competition

18 Omega precursor

19 Love, Italian-style

20 "Pygmalion" writer

22 Branch

23 Luminary

27 Cock and bull?

29 Director's call

31 Also-ran

34 Attractive guys

35 Excellent

37 Proof letters

38 Use a rotary phone

DOWN

1 Angelic instruments

2 Mennonite sect

3 Leg bone

4 "I did it!"

5 Scents

6 Severity

7 Scottish hillside

8 Decay

9 Moreover

10 Altar affirmation

11 Yule quaff

17 Wry

21 Roulette spinner

23 Hit the books

24 Can material

25 Fine, to NASA

26 ER workers

28 Mess up

30 "Evita" narrator

31 "Acid"

32 French "yes"

33 Hot tub

36 Infant

37 Nauseated

40 Hocus—

42 TV mogul

43 "Superman" star

44 Elena of the Supreme Court

45 Poetic tributes

46 Ollie's pal

48 Calendar abbr.

49 Edge

50 Santa — winds

51 Belief

Solution time: 25 mins.

B	U	S	P	A	N	S	G	E	A	R
A	S	H	A	R	I	A	A	R	L	O
H	E	R	E	D	I	T	I	S	A	
R	A	D	G	F	R	T	I	I	C	O
R	A	O	S	I	P	P	E	S	O	
O	R	E	O	M	A	W	O	T	I	S
S	P	R	E	E	Y	E	S	O	R	S
O	O	M	D	E	M	S	T	E	R	E
O	O	M	N	O	S	O	W	E		
A	P	O	P	O	N	C	R	E	D	I
P	A	N	A	I	O	O	M	U	R	I
E	L	A	L	A	B	C	Y	P	E	P

Yesterday's answer 4-8

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:

Taylor Kitsch, 35; Patricia Arquette, 48; Robin Wright, 50; John Schneider, 56.

Happy Birthday: Don't let stubbornness stand in your way. Utilize every skill and all the knowledge you have gathered over the years and put them to work for you. Determination is important, but motivations must be considered if you want to be successful. Let past experiences guide you. Keep jealousy at bay, and choose passion over possessiveness. Your numbers are 4, 13, 22, 25, 32, 37, 45.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): A well-thought-out plan will be easy to execute. Plan to celebrate with someone you love. A romantic encounter can turn into a promise that will give you something to look forward to. Mix business with pleasure. ★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Let others know what you are willing to give and how you would like to move forward. Openness will help you avoid disappointment later on. Plan a fun adventure with someone you love. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Get involved in something that will make you feel good. A charitable act will result in meeting someone who sparks your interest. A partnership will develop that promises experience and a chance to put your skills to good use. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Expand your interests and change things around at home to accommodate something you enjoy doing. Your intuition will not let you

down. Follow your gut feeling when dealing with friends and family matters, and you will get good results. ★★★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You'll have trouble controlling your emotions. Keep busy doing the things that challenge you and can help make you a better person. Altering or updating your image will lift your spirits. Plan a romantic evening or attend a social event. ★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Ask questions and engage in discussions that will help you better understand a personal situation or project you want to pursue. Don't get angry if someone is aggressive. A compassionate response will bring the best results. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Dealing with institutions, property or contractual matters is favored. Look for alternative ways to handle assets, or sell off possessions that are taking up space and are no longer of use to you. A change in an important relationship will benefit you over the long term. ★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Offering help to the underdog will lead to an unusual encounter with someone unique. Your insight and compassion will attract greater interest in your personal and professional life. ★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Uncertainty can turn into a costly mistake if you believe what others tell you. Ask questions and go to the source in order to get the facts and make wise decisions. Romance is favored. ★★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Keep an open mind when dealing with friends and relatives, but don't let anyone push you around or take advantage of you. You can make positive changes at home that will add to your comfort or increase your personal profits. ★★★★★

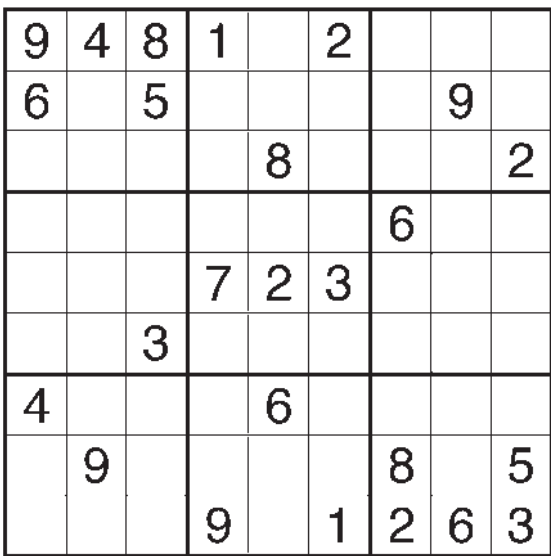
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Use your talents to reach your goals, and put more effort into perfecting what you enjoy doing most. Don't let anyone discourage you from following your dreams. Focus on physical self-improvements. Embrace personal changes and new beginnings. ★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Rely on your own efforts to get things done. If you count on others, you will be let down. Reconnect with people you have worked with or enjoyed being around in the past, and you will discover you still have plenty in common. ★★★

Birthday Baby: You are proactive, captivating and spirited. You are popular and playful. Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com. Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU

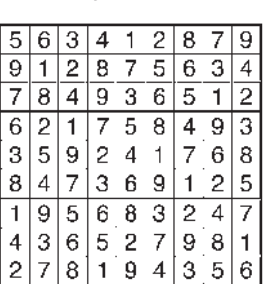
Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 4/58

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



Difficulty Level: ★★★ 1387

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

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WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

COACHELLA VALLEY MUSIC AND ARTS FESTIVAL. Sol.: 11 letters

E S A I S R E W O H S I S A O
M N E R N W A T E R E E E M G
P P T Z A D Y L O E M K C O R
I E O E I H I T O S A A N J E
R L Y H R R A O I O G C A A G
E T U L P T P S P R M P D V N
P T M A C I A S V A U U A E U
O U A E N N H I G D S C S U O
L H P B N O N E N N E S E I L
O S A U P E G C L M I E E S C
C L A S Y N D O O F E P V S O
L L B A N D S D B U F N M T B
U I R O O D T U O I R A T A C
B D T N E T T E L L O T R G C
S E R E T A E H T W I S T E R

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Annual. April. Bands. Bars. Camping. Court. Cupcake. Dance. Dome. Empire Polo Club. Entertainment. Food. Games. Gobi. Hip-hop. India. Lounge. Mojave. Music. Oasis. Outdoor. Passes. Paul. Pinball. Prizes. Raffle. Rock. Rose. Sahara. Security. Shops. Showers. Shuttle. Spectators. Stage. Tent. Theater. Toilet. Twister. Vineyards. Water. Yuma.

Yesterday's Answer: Cavalli

Jo's Jewels Collector's Edition is back by popular demand! Purchase online at www.WonderWordBooks.com or call 1-800-642-6480. (Contains 120 puzzles.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

SURROGATE MOTHER
American Couples and Non-American Couples are seeking your help to fulfill their dream to have a child. If you are female between the ages of 21 and 40, have had at least one natural child birth, and are interested in learning more about being a surrogate, please contact Evelyn @ 322-0419. Compensation is over \$22,000. or receive \$500 for referral of qualified candidates.

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DAY & NIGHT

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Saipan Tribune

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 - (20) Masons
 - (10) Painters
 - (10) Electricians
 - (10) Steel Workers-Welders
 - (10) Plumbers
 - (04) Heavy Equipment Operators
 - (10) Building Maintenance Repairers
 - (03) AC Technicians
 - (02) Landscapers
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RG3 with Browns: I have a massive chip on my shoulder



BEREA, Ohio (AP)—As Robert Griffin III vacated the podium following a poised and polished news conference, the quarterback tapped his fingers on the dais and made clear the mantra for his new opportunity.

"No pressure, no diamonds," he said.

Though RG3 will face high expectations with the Browns—blending in with a new city, team, coach and offensive system—the former Redskins QB plans to handle all issues with a motivation stemming from numerous problems in Washington.

"I'm not trying to let any baggage hold me down from the past," Griffin said, "but I do have a massive chip on my shoulder."

Griffin's issues in Washington included a serious knee injury, tiffs with former coaches and a disconnect with some teammates that landed him on the bench for the entire 2015 season.

While he feels he has something to prove with the Browns, who signed him to a two-year, \$15 million contract, Griffin admitted that he



made mistakes and that he's learned from them.

"I know there's things that I could've done differently," he said. "I can't focus on that. I have to focus on what I'm doing here with the Cleveland Browns."

When vetting the quarterback before bringing him to

the Browns, coach Hue Jackson grilled Griffin on his time with the Redskins.

The conversations and the questions were deep, but when walking away, Jackson got the sense that the 26-year-old has changed.

"He showed me that he's grown, that's he's learned. He

understands that sometimes we all play roles when things don't go well," Jackson said. "He wanted to move beyond that and grow and become better."

Jackson said Griffin impressed the Browns in private workouts.

Though he wouldn't address past comments in which he confidently expressed that he could be the best quarterback in the NFL, Griffin smiled and

said he believes in his abilities.

He's also confident he can handle Jackson's complex offense.

"I'm not afraid to sit in the pocket and throw the ball. I'm not afraid to run the zone-read," Griffin said.

Griffin's not alone in wanting to do what's best for the Browns.

That desire also beams from Josh McCown, who started eight games last season before

Cleveland Browns quarterback Robert Griffin III answers a question during a news conference at the NFL football teams practice facility Wednesday, April 6, 2016, in Berea, Ohio.

breaking a collarbone.

"I believe iron sharpens iron and we can help one another," McCown said. "For me, it's we come together, we help each other and let's make this position as good as we can make it for our team."

McCown and Griffin will bring leadership to the quarterback room, but the Browns could infuse youth into the situation in next month's NFL draft.

Jackson has said several times that the Browns will consider a quarterback with the No. 2 overall pick.

"I love adding other arms, but I don't know how that's going to all unfold," Jackson said. "If there's an opportunity to make our team better, then that's what we need to do all the time and I think the players truly understand."

No matter what the team does in the draft, Griffin is determined to lead—on and off the field.

He wants Cleveland fans to know he'll try to not add to the club's long list of questionable quarterbacks.

Pacers rout LeBron-less Cavaliers



INDIANAPOLIS (AP)—Paul George scored 29 points and C.J. Miles added 21, helping the Indiana Pacers blow out the Cleveland Cavaliers—with LeBron James getting the night off—123-109 on Wednesday night.

Indiana ended a four-game losing streak in the series and still leads eighth-place Detroit by a half-game. Ninth-place Chicago, still vying for one of the final two playoff spots in the East, is now three games behind the Pacers.

The Cavaliers played without the four-time MVP James, who rested after playing Tuesday night in Milwaukee. Without James, Kyrie Irving had 26 points and six assists. Kevin Love scored 23.

Trail Blazers 120, Thunder 115

In Portland, if there was an award for the NBA's most overachieving team, the Portland Trail Blazers would be heavily favored this year.

Picked by preseason pundits to finish near the bottom of the NBA standings because of drastic offseason roster turnover, Portland instead became a playoff team. The Blazers clinched a postseason berth Wednesday night with a 120-115 win over short-handed Oklahoma City.

Hornets 111, Knicks 97

In New York, Kemba Walker scored 34 points, Al Jefferson had 24 and the Charlotte Hornets bounced back from consecutive losses to the Eastern Conference's top teams by beating the New York Knicks 111-97.

Charlotte, which fell in Cleveland on Sunday and Toronto on Tuesday, had dropped a game behind Boston and Miami for fourth place.

Wizards 121, Nets 103

In Washington, Ramon Sessions scored 18 points and had a season-high 13 assists while starting in place of the injured John Wall to help the Washington Wizards defeat the Brooklyn Nets.

Bradley Beal scored 25 points, and Marcin Gortat had 16 points and 12 rebounds as Washington remained at least mathematically alive in the Eastern Conference playoff hunt.

Celtics 104, Pelicans 97

In Boston, Isaiah Thomas scored 32 points to help the Boston Celtics fend off the short-handed New Orleans Pelicans.

Jae Crowder added 14 points, Avery Bradley finished with 13 points and six rebounds, and the Celtics beat the Pelicans for the fourth straight time.

Pistons 108, Magic 104

In Orlando, Reggie Jackson scored 24 points and Kentavious Caldwell-Pope added 18 to help lead the Detroit Pistons over the Orlando Magic.

The win kept the Pistons (42-37) in contention in the Eastern Conference playoff race. They remained a half-game behind Indianapolis, which beat Cleveland, for the No. 7 spot.

Mavericks 88, Rockets 86

In Dallas, J.J. Barea scored 27 points and the Dallas Mavericks kept a slim cushion over Utah and Houston in the race for the last two Western Conference playoff spots.

The Mavericks' fifth straight victory—one shy of a season best—put Dallas (40-38) a game ahead of Utah and two up on Houston with four games remaining for all three teams.

Clippers 91, Lakers 81

In Los Angeles, DeAndre Jordan and J.J. Redick scored 15 points apiece in the Los Angeles Clippers' victory over the Los Angeles Lakers, spoiling the penultimate home game of Kobe Bryant's career.

The loss was the Lakers' 62nd of the season, setting a franchise low for the 16-time NBA champions. Bryant scored 17 points for the Lakers.

Day a favorite at Masters, where he once thought of quitting

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP)—Jason Day was lurking just outside Augusta National Golf Club, wondering if he wanted to go in.

The game just wasn't fun anymore.

Even though he was set to play in his first Masters in 2011, Day thought it might be time to do something else.

"Golf is a very, very frustrating game," Day recalled.

Whether he was really serious about quitting, no one will ever really know. Certainly, it's not a consideration these days.

As the 28-year-old Aussie prepares to tee off in the Masters for the sixth time Thursday, he's ranked No. 1 in the world and coming off his first major championship, one of the favorites along with defending champion Jordan Spieth and four-time major winner Rory McIlroy.

"I feel comfortable around this course," Day said. "I know it sets up well for me. It's a golf course where I can compete and play well and win."

Working against Day: the last top-ranked player to win at Augusta was Tiger Woods in 2002.

Indeed, this might be the

most wide-open Masters since the pre-Tiger days.

Spieth captured the first two majors of 2015 and nearly won the other two. McIlroy is missing only the Masters from a career Grand Slam. Day and 2013 Masters champion Adam Scott are both two-time winners on the PGA Tour this year. Two other Masters champs, Bubba Watson and Charl Schwartzel, also have victories in 2016. So does rising Japanese star Hideki Matsuyama, and let's not forget Phil Mickelson, a three-time Masters winner and hardly ready to fade away at age 45.

"There's a lot of guys who have a lot of success here that really brought some strong finishes and motivation and some momentum into this week," said Spieth, who tied for second in his Masters debut in 2014 before cruising to victory with an 18-under score a year ago. "I know that the people who are down maybe a few—three, four, five shots after the first couple of rounds—

are capable of making up a lot of ground here."

Coming off one of the greatest years in golf history, Spieth isn't even rated the favorite.

That would be Day.

"He can be the favorite," Spieth said with a shrug. "We'll go ahead and just do our thing."

Day hardly felt like the man to beat before the Masters five years ago.

In fact, he had totally lost his love for the game.

"You have to perform, because if you don't perform, then you're off the tour," Day said.

"Then you start stressing about, 'OK, is there enough money up to get my card for next year.' And then you start losing a little bit of confidence. Then you start getting frustrated out there, and then you don't practice because you're frustrated with how you're playing, and it's a downward spiral from there."

Right before the Masters, it almost came to a head during a meeting with his wife, his agent and his sports psychologist.



Amazing Story: Rookie makes history with another HR



PHOENIX --

Rookie Trevor Story made baseball history by hitting a home run in each of his first three major league games and the Colorado Rockies beat Arizona 4-3 on Wednesday.

Story also is the first player in baseball history to hit a home run for each of his first four hits.

Colorado's Tyler Chatwood (1-0) pitched a strong 6 1/3 innings in his first big-league appearance since recovering from a second Tommy John surgery.

Story's two-run homer off Patrick Corbin in the first inning gave him four for the season. DJ LeMahieu and Ryan Raburn also homered for the Rockies, who hit 10 home runs in the series, nine of them against Arizona starters. The Rockies took two of three

from the Diamondbacks.

Pirates 5, Cardinals 1

In Pittsburgh, after a pair of losses to open the season in Pittsburgh, the St. Louis Cardinals turned to Mike Leake in hopes he could pitch them to their first win of 2016.

It was a good bet, considering Leake's last lost a decision to the Pirates in 2012. However, even his superb track record against Pittsburgh wasn't enough to get his new team a win.

Leake didn't make it through the fifth inning, giving up four runs and seven hits in 4 1/3, and the Pirates completed a three-game sweep of the Cardinals with a 5-1 victory Wednesday night.

Indians 7, Red Sox 6

In Cleveland, Mike Napoli homered against his former Boston

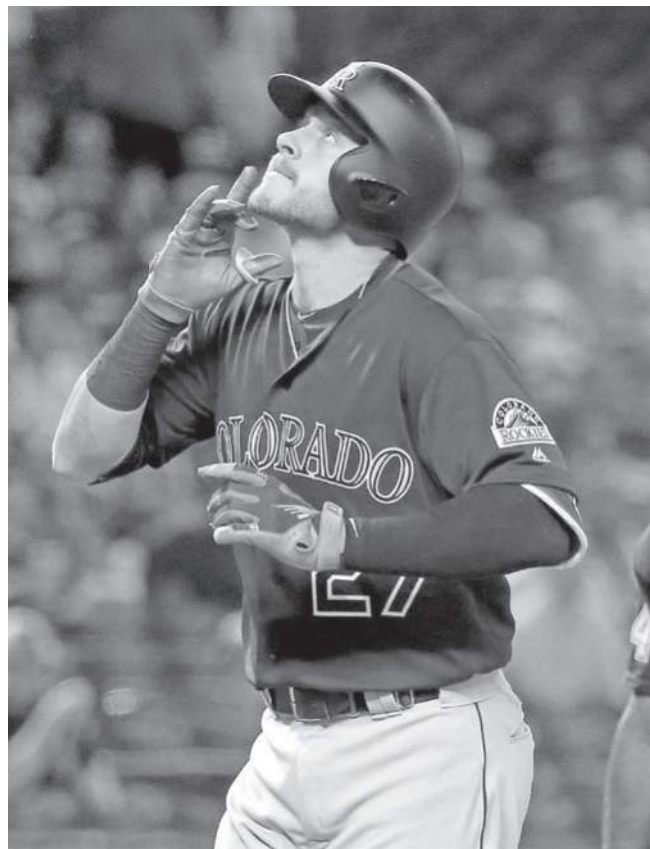
teammates and Cleveland overcame David Ortiz's second homer in his farewell season.

Napoli broke a 6-all tie in the seventh with his solo shot off Junichi Tazawa (0-1). Napoli, signed as a free agent in November to give the Indians' lineup some pop, spent 2 1/2 seasons with Boston and helped the Red Sox win the World Series in 2013. Batting just .207, they traded him to Texas in August.

Reds 3, Phillies 2

In Cincinnati, Scott Schebler doubled with the bases loaded and one out in the ninth inning as Cincinnati took advantage of another meltdown by Philadelphia's bullpen.

Philadelphia wasted a lead in the eighth inning of a 6-2 defeat on opening day. Ahead all the way until the ninth, the Phillies



AP
Colorado Rockies Trevor Story (27) points upward after hitting a two RBI home run against the Arizona Diamondbacks during the first inning of a baseball game, Wednesday, April 6, 2016, in Phoenix.

ed Tampa Bay over Toronto.

Souza pulled Tampa Bay to 3-2 in the sixth with a solo homer off J.A. Happ. Tampa Bay has homered in a team-record 18 consecutive games dating to Sept. 20.

Athletics 2, White Sox 1

In Oakland, Sonny Gray overcame lingering effects of a stomach flu and managed a quality start his team needed.

Gray pitched seven strong innings, Mark Canha homered and the Oakland Athletics beat the Chicago White Sox 2-1 Wednesday night to avoid a three-game sweep.

Yankees 16, Astros 6

In New York, Carlos Correa is off to a prodigious start in his first full major league season. His latest impressive performance went to waste at Yankee Stadium, though.

Collin McHugh got only one out in the shortest start of his career, and the Houston Astros were routed by the New York Yankees 16-6 on Wednesday night.

Dodgers 7, Padres 0

In San Diego, so much joy and so much agony in one game.

Japanese pitcher Kenta Maeda homered in the second at-bat of his major league debut with the Los Angeles Dodgers on Wednesday night and beat the Padres 7-0, making San Diego the first team in major league history to be shut out in its first three games.

Wolfsburg stuns Real Madrid in Champions League

WOLFSBURG, Germany—Wolfsburg caused the biggest upset of this season's Champions League with a 2-0 victory over record 10-time winner Real Madrid in the first leg of their quarterfinal on Wednesday.

Making only its second appearance in the competition and playing its first quarterfinal, Wolfsburg outmuscled and outran the Spanish giant to give itself a clear chance of advancing after next Tuesday's second leg at the Bernabeu.

"We are in a good position, we can always score a goal," Wolfsburg's coach Dieter Hecking said. "We wanted to unnerve them a little, and we succeeded."

Ricardo Rodriguez converted a penalty in the 18th minute and Maximilian Ar-

nold added the second in the 25th as the home side used counterattacks to devastating effect, dealing Madrid its first defeat in the competition this season. Wolfsburg has won all five home matches.

Cristiano Ronaldo had a goal disallowed for offside in the second minute and the Madrid star had little chance of increasing his competition-high tally of 13 goals after that.

"We didn't get into the game well," Madrid coach Zinedine Zidane said. "But we still have 90 minutes at home, we have to stay calm."

Madrid came into the match following a 2-1 win over Barcelona in the Spanish league "clasico," while Wolfsburg is struggling in

the Bundesliga. It was beaten 3-0 by Bayer Leverkusen last weekend, having previously lost one and drawn the other of its two league games before that.

"We knew it would be difficult. Wolfsburg got better into the match. We had our difficulties, we lacked intensity and movement. We didn't expect to lose 2-0," Zidane said. "Our second half was better."

In Wednesday's other match, Paris Saint-Germain drew 2-2 with Manchester City at home.

Wolfsburg took the lead when Casemiro upended Andre Schuerrle with a rash tackle. Rodriguez sent Kelor Navas the wrong way from the spot.



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MPU Blue tops Blue Marianas Futsal Cup

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

MP United Blue ruled the Blue Marianas Futsal Cup 2016 after shutting down sister team MPU Silver in the finals, 9-0, last Saturday at the TSL Sports Complex.

Edwin Kim led the easy title win after knocking in four goals. Michael Lee, Sunjoon Tenorio, Alex Park, Joshua Abragan, and Cody Leon added one goal apiece for MP United Blue, which advanced to the finals after placing first in the round-robin elimination.

MP United Silver, on the other hand, took the other finals ticket after edging Paire Football Club in a shootout, 2-0. Eun Syu Hahn and Dylan

Cho scored the two goals for MP United Silver.

Vivid Blue of Japan also competed in the futsal tournament and won its last game in the elimination against MPU Silver, 6-4. The visiting squad went on to take the Team Fair Play award and its player Ayado Handa was among the individual award-ees (team MVPs), joining Hahn, Paire's Logan Mister, and Tenorio.

Tenorio took the Golden Glove award, too, while Kim earned the Golden Boot plum for tallying 11 goals. Go Sekiguchi of MPU Silver received the tournament MVP award.

Blue Marianas Futsal Cup 2016 started last Thursday with four games. Paire won



the opener, beating Vivid Blue, 8-4, while MPU Blue prevailed against MPU Silver in the second match, 13-2. The

eventual champion went on to notch its second victory after

MP United Blue's Edwin Kim, left, scans the pitch first before making any move against MP United Silver's Go Sekiguchi during their title game in the Blue Marianas Futsal Cup 2016 last Saturday at the TSL Sports Complex.

blanking Vivid Blue, 12-2, while MPU Silver and Paire engaged in a 7-7 draw.

The tournament took a break last Friday and resumed action last Saturday with MPU Blue completing a sweep of the elimination following a 6-1 triumph over Paire. The win against Paire also gave MP United Blue the first finals berth, while the former remained in contention after Vivid Blue stunned MPU Silver in the last elimination round match.

Argentina regains FIFA rankings lead from Belgium



ZURICH (AP)—Argentina has regained the lead in FIFA's world rankings with South America's top teams surging after playing World Cup qualifying matches.

Argentina ends No. 2 Belgium's five-month reign, and Chile and Colombia rise to be Nos. 3 and 4.

South American teams played two World Cup qualifiers in March which score higher than friendlies played by European teams, whose 2018 qualifying program starts in September.

World Cup winner Germany is No. 5 and European champion Spain is No. 6, followed by Brazil.

Mexico, rising six places to No. 16, leads CONCACAF nations. The United States is up one at No. 29.

No teams from Africa or



Argentina's Lionel Messi, center, fights for the ball with Bolivia's Ronald Eguino, right, and Danny Bejarano during a 2018 World Cup qualifying soccer match in Cordoba, Argentina, Tuesday, March 29, 2016.

Asia make the top 32.

Algeria leads African teams at No. 33 and Asia's best is No. 42 Iran.

Meanwhile, Allie Long

scored her first two international goals, and the United States routed Colombia 7-0 Wednesday night in the Americans' first exhibition since

five players filed a wage-discrimination action against the U.S. Soccer Federation.

Carli Lloyd, Alex Morgan, Hope Solo, Megan Rapinoe and Becky Sauerbrunn filed an action last week with the Equal Employment Oppor-

tunity Commission, accusing the USSF of unlawfully paying them less than members of the U.S. men's national team. The union for the women's national team is in a legal battle with the USSF, claiming it can terminate its labor contract. The USSF claims the deal runs through December.

"We weren't really thinking about all that stuff, because at the end of the day that stuff will work itself out," Lloyd said. "We have to continue to make sure we are putting a good result out on the field."

The U.S. team was not the only one fighting money issues. The Colombian team has not been paid in two months, Philly.com reported last week.

"What happens, if we get money or if we don't get money, that's not important now," Rincon said.

Crystal Dunn, Mallory Pugh, Lloyd, Tobin Heath and Christen Press also scored for the Americans, who are preparing for this summer's Olympics, where they will try to win their fourth straight gold medal.

"This team has always done a wonderful job of managing to compartmentalize," U.S. coach Jill Ellis said. "I don't think in any way shape or form we let anything spill over to the training ground or the pitch tonight. I think it was a really good team performance, the crowd was fantastic and I admire them to be out in this cold weather."

Solo made two saves in her eighth shutout of the year, and the U.S. improved to 10-0 this year going into Sunday's match against Colombia at Chester, Pennsylvania. Morgan (hip) and Morgan Brian (hamstring) did not suit up but are expected to be available for Sunday.

The U.S. outshot Colombia 24-6, including 14-2 in shots on goal.

"I have great respect for Colombia, I always have," said Solo, who was part of last year's team that beat Colombia 2-0 in the World Cup's round of 16. "I'm a little bit surprised that the score was 7-0. I expected more from them."

FALCONS

From Page 32

the grounder to halt the Blue Jays' rally.

The close win against the Blue Jays came more than a week after the Falcons let the Brewers fight back in the last inning and win the season-opening game.

After the sorry loss, the Fal-

cons were pretty determined to get their first win as shown in the early part of their game against the Blue Jays. The Falcons had a five-run bottom of the first and added four more runs in the next two innings for a 9-4 advantage.

Both teams then slowed down in the middle innings with the Falcons failing to score a single run from the

fourth to sixth inning before saving five in the last three for enough cushion. The Blue Jays were silent from fourth to eighth inning before knocking on the Falcons' door in the ninth, but fell short in the end. The Blue Jays absorbed their second defeat in as many games as they also dropped their opener against the Yankees last week.

SWIMMERS

From Page 32

6 and brought home a gold medal. She won the finals of the 50m butterfly after registering 33.93 seconds, which is also the new meet record, eclipsing the 33.95 Michiko Shimokawa of Tokyo Swimming Center posted in 2002. Over 100 swimmers raced in the 50m butterfly and the

Saipan Community School student qualified to the finals after placing fifth in the preliminaries. Only the Top 8 out of the 113 swimmers marched into the finals.

After her successful stint in the Tokyo Sprint, Dangol did not rest on her laurels when she got back to Saipan and showed the same top form to take the high-point award in the girls 9 to 10 age group in the SSC-

organized tournament. She raced in nine events and registered personal best times in six, while winning the division plum against teammate Nanaka Watanabe and SSC's Jinie Thompson. Dangol collected 77 points from the SSC competition, 10 markers ahead of Watanabe. The 9-year-old Dangol also joined the SSC ocean swim and finished first in the 1K course.

OL'ACES

From Page 32

12 points, while Napu Atalig also finished in double figures with 10. Four other Ol'Aces players contributed at least 6 markers apiece, proving the team's better scoring powers than the Warriors. No Warriors player broke into twin digits as the best that Donnie Fejeran could do was register 6 markers.

The Warriors were clearly no match to the Ol'Aces as shown in the first half scores that read 37-10. With the comfortable lead, Mendoza was contented on facilitating the Ol'Aces' offense and letting his teammates do the scoring.

Meanwhile, Rollers Blue also

proved to have enough manpower to produce points for the squad in their 29-point blowout win against Rollers Red.

Lefty Jun Alipio top-scored for Rollers Blue with his 16 markers, while Christian Arceo and Aaron Ogumoro logged 15 and 10, respectively. Three other Rollers Blue players combined for 14 points, which were more than the output of the leading scorer of Rollers Red—Tony Deleon Guerrero—who had 10 markers.

Alipio pumped in 10 of his total points in the first half to lift Rollers Blue to a 57-28 advantage. Rollers Blue never relinquished the double-digit lead, as Deleon Guerrero failed to get support from his teammates to overhaul the big

deficit.

Tuesday Game

Rollers Blue 57— Alipio 16, Arceo 15, Ogumoro 10, Factor 6, Tengco 4, Cobacha 4, Mendoza 2.

Rollers Red 28— Deleon Guerrero 10, Toves 5, Yu 4, Mamaril 4, Muna 2, Quitugua 2.

Scoring by halves: 30-11, 57-28.

Wednesday Game

Ol'Aces 65— Borja 12, Atalig 10, Castillo 9, Sablan 9, Olopai 6, Onopwy 6, Atan 2, Norita 2, Mendoza 2.

Tanapag 28— D. Fejeran 6, J. Fejeran 5, N. Aguon 4, A. Aguon 4, Lifofoi 3, Sablan 2.

Scoring by halves: 37-10, 65-28.

TRAC Aquathlon and 5K/10K Pathway Run

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



Mamiko Berger, center, is all smiles after receiving the 10K first place medal from organizers of the TRAC Aquathlon and 5K/10K Pathway Run last Saturday during the awards ceremony at Kilili Beach.



Participants and volunteers in the weekend event gather for a group photo.



Robin Sapong, center, proudly poses with his third place medal in the 10K.



U19 winners Jinie Thompson, third left, and Kengo Sato, fourth left, show their medals in the 5K.



Ayano Braxton shows her runner-up prizes in the women's 10K category.



Joshua Berger is all smiles after getting a medal from organizers.



Jinju Thompson, third left, Angel Marie Tan, fourth left, and Atsuko Sato, fifth left, are the winners in the women's aquathlon.



Aquathlon third finisher Adrian Libayan, third left, runner-up Christian Villacrusis, center, and champion Wang Enfeng, fifth left, pose for a group photo with event organizers.



RG3 with Browns: I have a massive chip on my shoulder

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Saipan Tribune Sports

MPU Blue tops Blue Marianas Futsal Cup

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32 FRIDAY, APRIL 8, 2016

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Swimmers stand out in March



SUZUKI



DANGOL

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Saipan Swim Club's Lennosuke Suzuki and Tsunami Saipan's Ashley Dangol won the NMSA/TSL Foundation Student March Athletes of the Month awards for their outstanding performance in various tournaments last month.

Suzuki was recognized for setting three age group marks in the boys 11 to 12 age group during the 2016 SSC International Invitational Meet held from March 17 to 19 at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool. He timed in at 1:01.48

in the 100m freestyle to crash the 1:02.42 mark made by former SSC standout Josh Taitano in 1994. Then in the 200m freestyle, his 2:17.20 also shattered the 22-year-old record (2:18.66) of Taitano. The 12-year-old swimmer

went on to complete a hat-trick in the annual tournament when his 2:34.15 in the 200m individual medley surpassed another Taitano record (2:35.68).

Besides his three record-breaking swims, the Tanapag Middle School student also raced in five other events and ruled three of them to get the high-point award in his age group. He defeated Palau's Jericho Mado in a close battle for first place, 77-73.

After the competition at the pool, Lennosuke swam in the waters near Naked Fish in Susupe and emerged as the



top overall finisher in the 1.3K course of the 37th Annual Saipan Ocean Swim. He completed the race in 18:09 to beat rivals Mado (18:28) and Tsunami Saipan's Nelson Batallones (19:40).

Meanwhile, Dangol shared the monthly recognition with Suzuki for her record-breaking swim in Japan and domination in the SSC swim meet.

In Japan, Dangol was among the seven Tsunami Saipan swimmers who competed in the Tokyo Junior Sprint 2016 from March 5 to

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Ol'Aces, Rollers Blue ease past foes

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Rollers Blue and the Ol'Aces recorded lopsided victories in the U18 division of the Inaugural Frank M. Diaz Memorial Youth League at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Rollers Blue dominated Rollers Red, 57-28, in last Tuesday's lone match, while the Ol'Aces romped past the

Tanapag Warriors, 65-28, in last Wednesday's pairing.

The Ol'Aces were reinforced by former Marianas High School standout Kobe Mendoza, but the team did not need much of his help, as Edmond Borja and company were there to provide balance scoring for the winning squad.

Borja had a game-high

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Falcons hold off Blue Jays

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REPORTER



The Falcons halted the Blue Jays rally to pull off a 14-13 win in the 2016 Saipan Baseball League last Wednesday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

A.J. Evangelista made the game-tying hit with his RBI single at the bottom of the ninth inning. He then stole second, advanced to third off a passed ball, and reached home off a fielder's choice to save the Falcons from another meltdown.

It was déjà vu for the Falcons, who squandered a 6-1 lead against the GSM Brewers in the league opener for a 6-7 loss, as they blew a 12-4 advantage after eight complete innings

following the Blue Jays' nine-run top of the ninth.

Quinson Blas led the Blue Jays' rally, as he blasted a three-RBI double at the bottom of the ninth. All but one of the Blue Jays top of the order reached home plate to force a standoff, 12-all. Then a sacrifice out from Justin Santos who brought in Keola Camacho put the Blue Jays in front, 13-12, with two outs and runners on first and second base.

Closer Frankie Lieto stopped the bleeding for the Falcons, as he picked up a grounder from Chandler Deloatch for the third and last out at the agonizing top of the ninth. Lieto was the fourth pitcher the Falcons used in the ninth inning alone, hoping to bring order back to the team. He took over the mound from Aldolfo Roppul and after allowing back-to-back hits and a walk, he got

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Ol'Aces' Greg Sablan scoops up a shot during their game against the Tanapag Warriors in the U18 division of the Diaz youth caging last Wednesday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.